

# MACLEAN'S

**AFTER BAGHDAD**  
The battle over  
post-war Iraq

**THE QUEBEC ELECTION**  
Landry vs. Charest: same  
old same old after all

**DANIEL LANOIS**  
Canada's producer  
to the stars

# SARS: IS THIS YOUR BEST DEFENCE?




As the killer virus spreads, more Canadians die and experts remain baffled.  
What we know—and what we don't **BY DANYLO HAWALESKA.**

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'For Canadians offended by us not joining the American war in Iraq I have a simple solution: join the American army and go to Iraq.' —ELIZABETH BRIDGES, *Saturday Night Live*

Letters to the Editor: Editors@maclean.ca

#### The costs of war

George W. Bush and his naive, unilateral view of the world will reverse the course about winning the battle and losing the war ("Collateral damage," Cover, March 31). He will win the war and lose the battle, ending up sitting on the front porch of his Texas ranch with another one-term president, George Sr., blaming everybody but himself for his defeat.

Gavin Dyball, Harrisville, Ohio

War is a double tragedy. It is a tragedy because of the loss of lives. It is also a tragedy because the energy and resources required to wage this war could have been achieved so much more. Every year tuberculosis kills about two million people. The funding, estimated at only \$750 million per year to properly treat and cure the disease, seems negligible compared with the price of war. Last year, at the World Conference on Lung Health, UN special envoy Stephen Lewis passionately stated: "I want to know why there's always so much money for war and no money for the human condition." So would I, Mr. Lewis.

Alvin Sauty, Ottawa

Remember the words of Gandhi in prison by J. R. R. Tolkien: "There do not seem to be too eager to hand our death in judgment. For even the very wise cannot see all ends." Going to war should always be the very last resort and I don't believe it was in this case. I am proud of the Canadian Forces and I don't want to see them occupying Middle Eastern countries. I love the American people and feel good about this continent with them. That is why I hope Bush ends this conflict before more lives are lost.

Brent Pross, Halifax

#### Strategic differences

Stunned by U.S. Ambassador Paul Cellucci and the State Department that the U.S. was "disappointed" over Canada's non-participation in Iraq were astounding ("Washington in washing," Cover, March 31). "Fight with us or you'll be sorry" was



the gist. Like millions of other Canadians, I have never been anti-American—but don't threaten us.

Madeleine Whittell, Ottawa

Using the American argument of supporting U.S. policy in time of war, Canada should have been fighting in Vietnam simply because the U.S. was at war. The Bush administration's commitment to Canada was questionable long before the Iraq war. Unpardonable tariffs against our lumber and wheat, failure to publicly thank Canada for helping in the days following Sept. 11, the administration's delay in apologizing for the friendly fire incident that killed four Canadian service members and the fact that Bush has yet to make an official visit to Canada, all point to an administration that considers Canada, at best, an afterthought. Canada has made a decision about the war in Iraq based on our values as a nation. If the decision is right for Canada, then it is the right decision regardless of the consequences.

Barnett Horne, Ottawa

When it comes to strategy, I have to give the Liberal Party of Canada a top marks for cleverness. Common sense dictates that it would only be natural for Canada's corporate elite

to support the quest to control world oil supplies by their American and British counterparts. Since, in my view, the elite control the federal cabinet, one has to wonder why they didn't ride with their allies. Perhaps the answer lies in the reality that had the Liberals supported the war, that would have left the New Democrats as the only national political party opposed to Canada's participation. With the majority of Canadians opposed to a military mission not sanctioned by the United Nations, voters might remember that in the next election. If the NDP formed a government, it might decide to abrogate the North American Free Trade Agreement and negotiate a trade-in-Canada price for the energy we export. It may even nationalize Canada's energy industries. By opposing the war, the Liberal party has virtually insured itself of a majority come the next election.

William Jaszczewski, Weymouth, Nova Scotia

As an expatriate Canadian, I'm terribly embarrassed by the attitude of many in Canada to the U.S. I'm not sure if it's simply a shocking naivety, envy of big brother, or just ignorance, but many of you guys are just off the wall. America is far too commonly portrayed as the villain, when there is nothing in its history that could classify it as a colonizer or bully. The U.S. does not go in anywhere and tell others how to run their affairs, unless they are engaging (like Iraq) in threatening behaviour. The U.S. has been the one nation in the world standing between anarchy and democracy, and by having the balls to do so, you guys owe a lot of money as defense. Try to show some gratitude.

Steve Edwards, Dallas, Texas

#### Between friends

Allan Gotlib ("The Christian doctrine," *Essay*, March 31) asks of our current foreign policy: "Is it good for the country? Is it in our national interest? Is it a moral foreign policy? ... it is compatible with our historic partnership with the U.S. in the cause of freedom and peace." It is good for the country to stay out of a war that does not need to be fought. It is in our national interest to not send young Canadians to die in the Iraq desert, and it is in our national interest to not spend our tax dollars on a war that we are opposed to. It is moral to not participate in killing innocent people. Greed is driv-

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groud and Canada staying out of a greedy war makes me proud to be Canadian

Robert Franco, Phoenix, Que.

Allan Gotlieb makes a pragmatic and eloquent case for Canada to join the U.S. in its quest to oust Saddam Hussein. Still I wonder why so many of the United States' erstwhile allies decided to sit at this one out after they had been participants in the first Gulf War. Surely not every one of those allies is cowardly. Surely not everyone of them is "verheerend." I think it comes down to this: this particular administration has embarked on a foreign-policy path that will see it at that U.S. dominance is neither threatened nor even challenged. Nor in the judgment of Congress, mind you. Just in the judgment of the guy in the Oval Office and his advisers.

Scott D. Hill, North Vancouver, B.C.

Allan Gotlieb's arguments against Jean Chretien's position in Iraq were expressive in their content, but they rested on a questionable aphorism: that George W. Bush's decision to attack Iraq when he did was justified. War, especially pre-emptive war, is only defensible as a last-resort response to imminent danger. In this case there was no reason to suspect that Iraq was likely to attack the U.S., even indirectly, in the near future. Chretien's decision to insist on UN endorsement was in both Canada's immediate and long-term interests—even if it might have been intransigent to Washington more usefully.

Peter Haples, Ottawa, B.C.

Allan Gotlieb speaks an idiom about Canada's national interest. Should we not also be worried about our international interest and responsibility? If you are willing with your next door neighbour and he decides to cross the street to beat up someone else because he does not like them, are you obliged to help him? Does the answer differ if you need to borrow your neighbour's barbecue this weekend?

Mike Timmons, Hamilton

#### Unpredictable

As a former resident of Canada, I still enjoy Maclean's, even if I get my hands on it two weeks late. One advantage of mine is that I'm reading Barbara Aron's predictions that Iraqis will embrace reading American



Considering Canada's long-term interests

troops with joy! ("Why civilized people kill," March 17) on the same week that American troops face strong resistance from Iraqis defending their country. Humbling, isn't it? Chris Tanner, Cornwall, Iowa

#### Opinionated

I checked to see whether the article by Arthur Kent "reveling" U.S. motives and plans for Iraq's future was labelled as commentary, but, no ("Changing the global rules," Cover, March 31). Authoritative sources tend to support its impugning of U.S. policies on Iraq included a former Soviet minister and spokesman for Islamic groups such as the Muslim Council of Britain and the Council on American-Islamic Relations ("What's wrong with this picture?") So a fair-minded observer of the U.S. government and ethics, there is little doubt that the war is all about 9/11, profits from weapons of mass destruction and prevention of terrorist acts using WMD, not oil and Zionism.

David Gottle, Niagara Falls, Ont.

This American man gave credit where credit is due. Kent's opinion is as accurate as gets. Unfortunately, many Americans will never have the opportunity to see the issues covered in such a candid, accurate fashion. Is there such a thing as a Bush-foreign-policy draft dodger?

Cynthia Kemper, Denver, Colo.

#### From the front lines

I agree with Peter Mandelberg's suggestion that embedding journalists with American forces in the Iraq war could have some value

("To 'embed' or not," Mandelberg on the Record, March 31). But let's embed at the highest levels—in Gen. Tommy Franks's headquarters, hundreds of miles away from the fighting, for example. Embedding journalists with Marine Corps elite companies serves to give us only images of the suffering of poor boys from Alabama who are doing the heavy lifting for George W. Bush and the American Enterprise Institute. Embedding, yes. But only for information at the highest levels.

Donna Pender, Victoria

#### From street level

I was deeply moved by Alexandre (Sacha) Trudeau's article ("Edge of the abyss," Cover, March 31). He paints a picture of despair and resolve of a people facing a terrible political onslaught. It is what is marked as "shock and awe." His writing exposes a dimension that we cannot get from CNN. Journalists are never more dangerous nor more important than at times of conflict. The implication Trudeau provides is a testimony to his lucidity.

Berry Morgan, Surrey, B.C.

#### Border crossing

Why don't we use the new problems at the U.S. border, as outlined by Mary Joann ("Trouble at the border," March 31) as a chance to wain ourselves off our super-power neighbour? We could become more self-efficient and expand our international influence. This could help jump start our nation to start redeveloping our army back into a power to be reckoned with.

Joseph Kobald, Houston

#### Lowly Punkinhead

I was charmed to see a story about my cherished Punkinhead ("Punkinhead's progress," Chasing News, March 31), a bear close to my heart. But no article on Punkinhead is complete without a nod to his engraver, Winnipeg-born Charles Thomson, better known for the cartoon characters he designed. Thomson was the Warner Bros. artist who first drew the ever-Gummi Elmer Fudd and that wacky rabbit, Bugs Bunny. Back in Canada, Thomson turned to an advertising career where he continued to design lovable characters like Punkinhead for Kato's and Elmer the Safety Elephant for the Toronto police.

Kathleen G. Beattie, Houston, Ont.



# SIMPLY THE BEST

The results are in. Yea, our readers, can truly make Maclean's the most popular news or business magazine in the country.

These are the findings of the Print Measurement Bureau (PMB), the Canadian magazine industry's barometer of readership, which just released the results of its latest annual survey.

"Despite the proliferation of choice, more than three million people turn to Maclean's every week for smart, in-depth stories and to find Canadian voices and opinions," says Sharon Murray, Director of Research for the News and Business Group (NBS), with Ann Heenan, Director of Research for Maclean's. "PMB 2003 shows that our readers tend to be well-educated, affluent and influential in business, civic and social issues. It also shows that our magazine



is read equally by men and women." Maclean's has also improved its already dominant position relative to the Globe and Mail and National Post, audience numbers for which were recently released in a comparable survey (NADMedia).

"We're gratified that we've done bet-

ter than all of our principal competitors," notes Maclean's Publisher Paul Jones. "At a time when many newspapers are experiencing readership declines, we're pleased that our audience remains stable."

Jones sees a link between Maclean's performance and the recent changes to the magazine, overseen by Editor Anthony Wilson-Smith.

"We believe that readers are responding to the changes in content and design incorporated in last year's renovations. Clearly, those changes resonate with our audience of active, well-educated and engaged readers."

## MACLEAN'S.CA PHOTO GALLERY

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## THEWEEK



**Insolvent** | Can buffeted Air Canada rebound as a national carrier?

The plane, at least, is still airborne. But last week, against the backdrop of an increasingly fragile industry, Air Canada's declared bankruptcy, filing in both Canadian and U.S. courts for protection from its creditors. For weeks, blunt CEO Robert Milne had called on the airline's labour groups for guidance to the tune of \$650 million—half of what he claimed was the difference between the cost of running Air Canada and its smaller, more nimble competitors, among them Calgary's Westjet. The said, so Westjet and others splashed off 25 per cent of the national carrier's operating fees. The long war cut international bookings, and the worldwide onerous of the respiratory disease SARS just made it worse. For whatever reason, the airline was staggering under \$13 billion in debt. But the straw that broke the camel's

back? Demands from regulators to address a pension plan shortfall. Still, even insolvent, the airline assured the travelling public its planes would continue to deliver passengers to their destinations. Its popular Aeroplan program remains in place, although the deal to sell a portion of it to Gerry Schwartz's Qantas Corp. may be on ice. Under court-ordered protection and supported by \$1.65 billion in private financing, the airline will restructure. Already, potential suitors, including Texas and British investment houses, are lining up, envisioning a leaner, meaner and profitable airline. But in the end, Ottawa—whose financial help Milne repeatedly will have to decide whether Canada will need its own national flag carrier. Or else, possibly foreign-owned.

KATHERINE MACLEOD

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employee  
contributions

▼ **Major Unions**  
Basketball  
and soccer players  
inspired by order to  
sign *Gold Medal America*  
during the seventh-  
rounding which help  
the war effort. What  
new version's  
inspiring in formation?  
Take us out to the  
last game, please.



▼ **Wall-to-wall**  
Puls music video  
after well-known  
of bandits and multi-  
renew. Once again  
theatrical sound U.S.  
is "movie" taste.  
Audited. Get longer  
grounds at George  
high look like.  
Domestic a day,  
video is home.

## ScoreCard

▼ **Canada's MIL**  
Tiny outlay of  
Canadian training  
with arms and  
military gear helped  
government recogni-  
tion for dangerous  
war zone. Simon  
"the soldier" there."  
says, do his own  
As far behind as  
possible, it seems.

▼ **Air Canada**  
Shorter value centers  
as highest mortgage  
sinks bankruptcy  
pledge. How to  
restructure after dis-  
count carriers—Boag,  
Jazz and Jet—fail  
to generate needed  
profits. Big losses  
storm alongside in  
newest model. Maybe  
20th and 21st, too?

▼ **Force made:**  
Most paper inside  
of autism relief in  
fighting SARS virus.  
But a hefty federal  
statement, especially  
for these facilities like  
shelter. How everyone's  
a health. Jackson  
Harris making the  
bank offers, though.

**Quote of the week** | "The majority are just waving at me. But if they put out their hand I put out mine." **MONTAGNO SAMUEL BIANCO** of St. Michael's Cathedral in Toronto, where concern over the respiratory disease SARS has resulted in charged masks and "Wash Your Hands" posters at every communion station.





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**MEDIA** Canada's largest cable TV operators have applied to add al-Jazeera to their line offerings. The Arab world's counterpart to CNN was vilified recently by both the U.S. and Iraqi leadership. It is also the new network that broadcast taped interviews with Osama bin Laden.

© 2007 Blackwell Publishing Ltd, *Journal of Internal Medicine* 261: 105–112

A baby girl born in 2000 could expect to live 82 years, up 0.3 years from 1999, whereas a newborn boy's life expectancy is 79.7 years, a half year increase that continues to close the longevity gap between the sexes, Statistics Canada reported.

## Mansbridge on the Record



## THAT MASTER-LY WEIR

Pro golfers are a special breed. And Canada's Mike Weir is extra special.

**THINK ABOUT THIS** For a moment, blocky players are expected to choose a meeting rubber disc while skating at high speed with opposing players draped all over them, and an arena full of screaming fans in the background. Baseball players must try to hit a small scented ball travelling toward them at close to 100 m.p.h., while some of those watching can be heard yelling obscenities about their ability to perform that fantasia. And football players try to catch a rotating leather oval while running as fast as they can to avoid being crushed by someone trying to stick a helmeted head in their stomach.

So why is it that with so much around allowed to enter a word or make any noticeable movement, it's so hard to swing a finely crafted stick at a daffling white ball conveniently drifting on top of a lily wooden stand? Why does the very thought send shivers of fear down spines, not to mention the feeling when the ball looms, momentarily, disappearing into vastness, or, indeed, That you see, is the thing about golf: it always sounds so simple, until you try it.

Which is why there are professional golfers—and then, there are the rest of us. Prohibit Canadian's Mike Weir, who this week heads to the nearest (yet still 45-mile) golf ground of Augusta, Ga., in search of his first "major." Weir is having a great year on the pro circuit—one of the best ever for Canadians—but winning one of the four annual majors is what separates the great from the really great. Weir knows that, but also feels he's ready to join the elite golfing class, so he's a lot of his fans, and some of the game's most respected observers.

To remember being in Prince Edward Island for Weir's first brush with fame, when he filled out a foursome with Fred Couples, Mark O'Meara and John Daly—all past major winners—in the Canadian Stano Gens in 1996. The group was putting on a show with its drivers, pounding the ball out about 100

yards down the fairway, when suddenly Couples started playfully teasing Weir about being a left-hander, and challenged him to try hitting the ball right-handed like everyone else. And he did—dead straight, about 250 yards. The crowd roared, and the three tour veterans were forced to try their hand at the same game, by hitting left-handed. Suddenly Weir seemed very much a part of the group, and in many ways, he's never looked back. He's since won five tournaments and more than US\$10 million on the tour. That, in fact, is a better record in both wins and money since that day in P.E.I. than his three former playing partners can boast.

Last year, Weir and I bumped into each other again during the Salt Lake City Olympics. He new lives just down the road in Draper, Utah, and he'd dropped into the Games site to watch Canadian athletes well. He was confident that 2002 was going to be a good one for his game, although it didn't turn out that way. But what struck me as I watched him struggle week after week was that he never seemed to lose his cool. No slumping or ducking into the ground, no verbal outbursts, no pleading to the golf gods by staring up at the sky when puns didn't drop. No, just patience that the bad stretch would end. And that confidence paid off in a big way this year, as a re-engaged Mike Weir rolled onto the golf stage. In the first quarter of this year, he's compiled a record that challenges that of you-know-who.

The Masters at Augusta is a long way from the Stano Gens at Coworth Cove in P.E.I. The stakes are a lot higher, and the pressure has made some of the best golfers in the game's history unstable. So don't expect any left-handed/right-handed tricks as on that day in 1996—but do expect a classy performance, whatever the result.

Peter Mansbridge is Chief Correspondent of CBC Television News and Anchor of The National. To comment: letman@macdon.ca

## Passages

**DONATED:** Michael Lee-Chin, head of investment firm AIC Ltd., gave \$30-million to the Royal Ontario Museum renovation and expansion project. The new addition will be named for the 52-year-old Jamaican-born tycoon. The museum court will be called the Myricent Gloria Chen Crystal Court in honour of his mother.



Vancouver philanthropist Rabbi Josef Wosk donated 439 more art pieces to the Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design. The collection, which includes works by Chagall, Picasso, Dalí and Warhol, is worth more than \$500,000.

Canadian rock band Rush has donated instruments, equipment, some of its Juno Awards and its gold and platinum albums to the Canadian Museum of Civilization.

**DIED:** Michael Kelly, the highly respected editor-in-chief of the Atlantic Monthly and a Washington Post columnist, was killed in a Honda accident while on assignment in Iraq. He was 46.

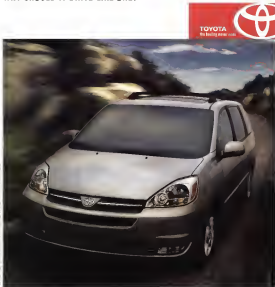
Former Soviet Union prime minister Vladimir Putin, who helped launch the failed 1991 coup d'état against president Mikhail Gorbachev, died in Moscow after a long illness. He was 66.

**HERO:** Pulitzer Prize-winning war correspondent Peter Arnett was named by Britain's Daily Mirror as the first NBC fired him for telling Iraq television that the initial U.S. war plan had failed. Arnett, 68, will also comment on the war for Britain's VTM television station.

**FOUND:** Missing Ottawa boy Gavin Hollen (a subject of a *Maclean's* cover story on parental abduction) was reunited with his father, Doug Gibson, after eight years on the run with his fugitive mother, Phyllis Hollen Gens, now 12, is living with his father in a Vancouver Island town near Cobalt.

**EXONERATED:** After nearly 18 months, Rwanda's highest court upheld an appeals court decision and found no evidence to lay murder charges against Mary Jean Iltis, the Virginia wife of Luc Kibuye, the Mozambican military technician gunned down in Rwanda City on Oct. 10, 2000.

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# IS THIS YOUR BEST DEFENCE?



As Canadians anguish over how to protect themselves from SARS, health authorities take note of what went wrong, writes **DANYLO HAWALESKA**

IT'S USUALLY pretty simple for Kendra Kaufeld to get to work. The 27-year-old grade-school teacher from Chalfontown lives in suburban Hong Kong, a short walk from the train station where she catches her daily, hour-long ride into the city. Her apartment building is up a steep, hunching road, part of a surreal complex of two dozen 30-storey high rises clinging to the side of a mountain. The towers are hives of humanity—and possibly infection. These days, when Kaufeld leaves the relative safety of her shared 28th floor apartment, she rides the elevator to the lobby with some apprehension. The consequences of her next few steps weigh on her as she wonders: is it safe to go outside?

All around Hong Kong, people go about their business in masks. The economy's losing tens of millions of dollars, businesses shut public transit and the World Health

Organization is in a rare move, saying many unless a visit is absolutely necessary. One high-rise apartment tower that Kaufeld passes on her way to work has been emptied, its residents quarantined in special camps built on the outskirts. The city is trying to come to grips with severe acute respiratory syndrome, the mysterious ailment, likely viral in origin, that had stricken 761 people there, and 2,354 in 18 countries worldwide, by last week, killing at least 85.

If SARS were a book, it would be an epidemiological whodunit with no obvious end in sight. As labs worldwide—including Health Canada's maximum-security facility in Winnipeg (page 24)—pressed the search for the cause of SARS, the WHO maintained a global health alert, calling for any patient with atypical pneumonia to be isolated and imploring a wary world to be vigilant.

Understandably, people want answers. Here in Canada, another global hot spot with more than 180 suspected and probable cases and eight deaths (with a ninth under investigation) by the end of last week, health authorities stress that the risk to the general population is extremely low. To keep it that way, Dr. Gaila D'Cunha, Ontario's commissioner of public health, and public security commissioner Dr. James Young applied tough SARS restrictions to hospitals, professionals. That means no visitors except on compassionate grounds (parents of sick children, for example, or visiting parent's family) and more security staff and police to enforce regulations. All emergency and critical care employees are wearing masks and other protection, and anyone who enters a hospital is screened for possible contact with SARS. There are no non-urgent transfers of patients between health-care facilities, and



Like many others in Hong Kong, Kaufeld wears a mask in public—a scenario that public health officials in Canada are striving to avoid

## HOW A NEW DISEASE STALKED THE LOBBE

The Geneva-based World Health Organization (WHO) says SARS first appeared last Nov. 16 in Hanoi, Guangdong province, China, but Beijing denied no alert. The global outbreak began when a semi-retired medical professor from Guangdong checked into the Metropole Hotel in Hong Kong on Feb. 15, and at least a dozen became infected. One, a 39-year-old woman, flew to Toronto, triggering the crisis. Another, a 56-year-old man, carried the disease to Vancouver. Three others took SARS to Singapore, and a doctor who'd been transplanted the disease to Germany. A staff went to Hanoi, introducing SARS to Vietnam, and a person infected there carried the virus to Thailand.

On March 12, the WHO issued a global health alert. By March 17, the agency was reporting 117 cases and four deaths worldwide. Hong Kong, Hanoi, Singapore and Toronto had been over-SARS hot spots in Germany and Thailand; the disease was contained. Then, almost daily, new countries informed the WHO of probable cases, and the death toll rose. Numbers from the WHO and Health Canada.

New to WHO's list	Global cases	Cases in Canada	Global deaths	Deaths in Canada
March 10	115	0	4	2
March 17	204	0	5	2
March 20	304	5	10	2
March 21	358	5	12	2
March 22	388	9	15	3
March 24	456	11	17	3
March 25	461	19	17	3
March 26	1,120	28	46	3
March 27	1,440	29	53	3
March 28	1,445	37	53	3
March 29	1,548	27	54	3
March 31	1,600	50	56	4
April 1	1,887	56	62	6
April 2	2,274	67	76	6
April 3	2,276	69	76	7
April 4	2,351	74	85	8

in the Toronto region, elective surgeries are cancelled and some clinics closed.

As the reaction spread, Toronto's mood shifted. All right, Canadian doctors are associated with the city, and the number of its probable and suspected cases continued to climb last week, reaching 150. Some were recovering—23 were sent home from hospital, though they were expected to remain in isolation for up to 10 days. Among those who died, seven were elderly or ill when they contracted SARS, and five of those had connections with Toronto's Scarborough Grace Hospital, epicentre of the city's outbreak. The night's, the 44-year-old son of Canada's original SARS facility was not known to have been infected. He sought treatment at Scarborough Grace, and died there.

Nerves began to fray. An April 18 poll found two-thirds of respondents across Canada thinking that anyone entering from

SARS hot spots should be quarantined or not allowed into the country. A few Torontoans took to wearing masks in the streets but, citing the best medical advice available, the Toronto Transit Commission directed subway drivers to abstain from the practice. There was a call for a mask in public places, warned Young, the public security commissioner. "The need for masking is in health care facilities, for people in isolation to isolate themselves from their families," Young said, "not in the general community."

Seeking to contain the outbreak, health authorities asked all Toronto area residents who'd visited Scarborough Grace, or otherwise had possible contact with SARS, to go into voluntary quarantine. That meant some 2,500 people had to stay home and wear masks around their families. By last week many had completed the requisite 10 days

## A microbiologist at the heart of Toronto's 'huge catch-up' response says the city was unprepared for the task it faces

of isolation, the presumed maximum incubation period for SARS, and were free to resume their lives. Five men and women were known to have faced the quarantine request—last week a physician ordered them to a mandatory isolation.

Across Canada, communities took precautions—including suspended SARS ceremonies, acting up SARS information offices—to avoid becoming another Toronto. And in that nation's biggest city, an evidence-based request last week to stay home and wear masks that the health care infrastructure was nowhere near ready to cope with the threat

of an epidemic, authorities struggled to avoid becoming another Hong Kong.

**THE OUTFRANK** began on China's Guangdong province last November, and spread to Hong Kong in February. Only last week, after a delay that the international community condemned, China finally allowed WHO investigators into the region. Being even took the extraordinary step of apologizing to the world for not acting sooner. By then, SARS had had a devastating impact on Hong Kong and its surroundings, killing in total 37 by last week. Warning signs have appeared just about everywhere, says Riedel—in restaurants, apartment buildings, fitness centres. They alert people to symptoms—temperature of 38°C (100.4°F) or higher and dry cough, absence of breath or difficulty breathing—and urge them to wash their hands frequently.

Most medical authorities stick with the theory that SARS requires close contact to spread, and that it isn't airborne—that is, infectious particles don't remain suspended in the air for long. But as it appeared that the virus could survive on some surfaces, doctors urged Hong Kong residents to wear gloves, use their legs to push elevator buttons and avoid those theatres and other crowded places. The scene outside Rialto's shopping building was typical. "It's like walking into a surgical unit," she says. "The majority of people are wearing masks everywhere you go—it's very disconcerting."

In Canada, as the SARS scare made its way across the country with newsreel scenes in British Columbia, Alberta and Atlantic Canada, the disease remained most troubling in Toronto. Dr. Stuart Peck, B.C.'s deputy provincial health officer, expressed his concern over what was happening. "I



A coronavirus, similar to the cause of the common cold, is a prime suspect in the SARS mystery that put Scarborough Grace Hospital (left) at the epicentre of the Canadian outbreak.

don't think from what I know of Ontario they're able to say that the outbreak is contained yet," said Peck. "They'll have to wait two to three weeks to determine whether it is."

Actually, Vancouver was fortunate. Physicians treating the first probable case there were mindful of an alert for another disease with similar symptoms—a new flu strain—and quickly isolated the patient (page 32). In recent years, the international medical community has repeatedly warned that the conditions are ripe for the appearance of a deadly new flu strain with the potential to kill millions. Even with that knowledge, says Dr. Donald Low, chief medical officer for Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital, SARS caught Ontario off guard. Toronto officials ruled out a few critical assumptions, including key emergency response procedures, including when and how to close hospitals, put people in isolation, admit someone to hospital, or transfer a patient. The action plans came together only by March 30, says Low, more than three weeks after the first Canadian death. "We're playing this huge catch-up in creating all of these high level documents in a period of 34, 48 or 72 hours," says Low, in quarantine himself last week after exposure to a colleague who was unknowingly incubating the disease. "It's an incredible amount of work—we were not prepared to do it."

Why wasn't Ontario ready? A matter of priorities, Low responds. "It's not at the top of the pile," he explains. "As well-intentioned as people are, they have other responsibilities, whether it's living in better homes, having to worry about their own situation, or their own patients." Practical obstacles in infection control, epidemiology and lab staff didn't help, he added. Another lesson learned: A crisis requires good, strong leadership from a disinterested source. The chain of command, says Tom Clouston, the former mayor of Toronto General and now an all-Ireland basketball star, was shaky from Day 1. "In the early days of the outbreak, says Clouston, it was unclear whether Ontario's Ministry of Health or Toronto Public Health was directing the response. Clearing up any confusion, making it clear that Young was in the saddle, took a while. "I've learned that if you don't know who's in charge," adds Clouston, "you don't know what to do."

Figuring out what to do was particularly

## ON GUARD AT THE GATEWAY TO THE ORIENT

The Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Vancouver is normally a welcoming place, a bustling kiosk in the heart of historic Chinatown. Now, however, it is eerily quiet. Signs on the doors, in bold Chinese characters, tell recent visitors to Hong Kong, China or Southeast Asia to stay away for 14 days to ensure they don't spread the SARS virus. "I don't want to take any risks," says Samuel Yip Yee Chiu, executive director of the centre. Then, whose university studies happened to include courses in biology and bacteriology, posted the signs almost a week earlier, on March 26, warning thousands of British Columbians would be returning from spring-break holidays in the far East. "It wouldn't be like it in Toronto," he says. "We have to be very alert before anything happens. After, it's too late, it's out of control."

Such precautions have so far served B.C. well. The province is the gateway to China, where the SARS virus originated, but last week third part three of Canada's 74 probable cases of the dangerous respiratory disease, and no fatalities. Six men, aged 55 and 44, and an elderly woman were infected in Hong Kong. All were isolated in Lower Mainland hospitals shortly after their arrivals in B.C., with reports that they had spread the virus. Public health officials credit a dose of luck—their heightened surveillance was the result of early warnings by the R.C. Centre for Disease Control of

another Asian virus epidemic, a strain of flu. Still, the SARS scare has had a huge impact on the Vancouver area, and especially its large Asian population. The cultural centre, for instance, cancelled most courses. All 4,000 students of the centre's Chinese language classes throughout the Lower Mainland had their March break extended by two weeks. Public schools are monitoring the health of students who recently visited SARS hotspots. Several private schools asked such students to stay home during the day's school incursion period. At Vancouver's private Kwantlen High School, which has a large enrolment of live-in students from Asia, many won't see their families at Easter—the school asked them not to travel home during the 18-day break.

Such decisions are devastating the hotel business, with discounts for Asia falling sharply. "Most of the reservations are for Hong Kong and mainland China," says David Ho, general owner of Bali & Orient Holidays, a Vancouver travel service. "It's just the fear in everybody's mind—it's hard to combat." As for incoming immigrants, the Vancouver Chinese Health Authority and Health Canada refused to train more quarantine officers to screen passengers flying in from the affected areas.

In Vancouver's Chinatown, barbecued ducks and split chickens of young pigs hang, as usual, in shop windows. Salsolado shops of fresh produce and pungent baskets of dried meats and



non-complex for the attention of shoppers, but the crowds are smaller than usual, a complaint of several businesses. An elderly woman in a shopping bag line-up wears a surgical mask, her fingers fluttering over the fabric barrier. People stand in a full-mooned boat hoods and hats as they down Mein Shit.

At Sunlight Herbal Products in First Period,



Protective masks and traditional Chinese remedies joined the war on SARS in Vancouver.

Massage Tummy Massage is a water to the back of the stove to see use of his most popular items since the SARS scare began. The dry blue box contains a herbal medicine, ban lan gen, or astragalus root, credited with relieving inflammation and purging toxins. Other cus-

tomers favour dried chrysanthemum, used as a tea, or elaborate prescriptions concocted from the virus's bile and jans of roots and herbs. Some are shipping the medicine to family overseas. "Hong Kong right now is full of sick of all this," says Wong. Like many, he feels like

he thought in Vancouver, but he worries about his family in Hong Kong. "I'm wearing my glasses to wear the mask and goggles," he says. "And be careful to always wash their hands."

On that point, modern antiviral and health experts agree. Hand-washing with the SARS epidemic is a useful exercise—it is accompanied by soap and water.

KIM MACQUEEN

ly off to work at Southborough Grace. The first SARS patient to die in Canada, Su-chu Kwan, 78, was infected while staying at Hong Kong's Metropole Hotel in late February. When she returned to Toronto, she caught the virus from a family doctor, but passed on the infection to both her doctor and her 44-year-old son, Chi Kwan. Two, before dying at home on March 5. Eight days later, her son died at Grace—a day after the WHO issued its global health alert. An elderly nursing aide in the bed next to his became the third family. That patient and other staff talking about a serious, travel-related respiratory illness. But when they tried to take the precaution of wearing masks, it didn't go over well with hospital superiors.

An incident at Grace in late March 22 illustrates the confusion and tension. By then, SARS had killed three people in Toron-

to. Twelve others were probable or suspected cases. The disease was spreading slowly in Hong Kong, Singapore and Hanoi. According to two nurses who requested anonymity, a Grace staff member insisted that for infection control a physician that day they had to need to wear a mask.

"It was bad for public relations," a nurse was put, said one nurse. Added the other "And it wasn't part of the infection-control people, it was management saying, 'You know, it's not good PR to be wearing the mask, you usually don't need that mask, it's overkill.'"

Four days later, on March 26, Ontario declared a public health emergency and called on thousands of people to quarantine themselves in their homes.

But the situation at Grace at the time wasn't out and dried, says the hospital's chief executive, Ronald Reddy. There were debates over how widely masks should be

used in the hospital. Even now, he says, some say the hospital's precautions were too far and unnecessarily alarmed the public, while others say more drastic steps should have been taken. "I think everyone has the right to share their perspective," says Reddy.

Beyond that hospital's decision-making, Barb Webb, president of the 47,000-member Ontario Nurses' Association, says a hospital responded too slowly. As a result, a package of safety measures included three points: "In one hospital, everyone with direct patient contact was wearing gloves and masks," she says. "In another, there'd been a case. I'm not being given a gown and mask. I'm really scared, what should I do?" That tells me that we weren't prepared."

Not all at once, says "I really don't think we can criticize," says Dr. Lucien Mandel, chief of the infectious diseases division at Mo-

Master University's medical school in Hamilton. "It's hindsight is 20/20—everybody recognizes things in retrospect. 'SARS' life. The consensus in the healthcare community is that all that can be done is being done. Nonetheless, Toronto is left wondering just how bad things could still get."

Provincial health authorities note the outbreak has been limited to contact with a few so-called index cases—SARS patients who contracted the disease in Asia. These patients infected unsuspecting medical staff before masks, gowns, gloves and goggles stemmed the spread in hospitals, says Low. "All the transmission to date is all hospital related," he says. "We don't have evidence yet that it's in the community."

The thing to watch for in Canada now is whether SARS keeps spreading. "We'll see one catch it on a bus" Or in an apartment building? Most medical experts, including

## SARS has already left a deep scar in the world of commerce, hitting the travel and hospitality sectors especially hard

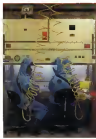
those at Health Canada and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, say SARS is centered in respiratory droplets that fall quickly to the ground when a patient coughs or sneezes, minimizing the dispersal of infectious agents. "I think that at the end of the day," Low says, "it's not going to be found to be airborne." But nothing is ruled out completely, and SARS, say CDC researchers, may yet prove to have an airborne component. Low also points to the indications that the virus can survive briefly, perhaps a couple of hours,

on a variety of surfaces. That underscores the need for frequent handwashing. As for the cause, the evidence increasingly points to a number of the commercial industry possibly working in tandem with other viral partners in this biological mystery. Whatever the causes, doctors advise patients to watch for acute viral headache coupled with muscle or joint pain, followed by a high temperature, a dry cough, and breathing problems. So far, say doctors, it appears—though it's not certain—that patients become infectious only after the onset of symptoms. Some patients were treated with broad-spectrum antiviral, anti-infectious drugs in the hope something would work. Others simply got better after resting and drinking fluids. Seeking an atomic weapon, Health Canada has approved the testing of ribavirin, an antiviral drug normally used to treat hepatitis C. But still so

## ON THE FRONT LINES OF THE SEARCH FOR THE CAUSE OF SARS

Since opening in June 2000, Health Canada's National Microbiology Laboratory has handled its share of life-threatening infectious organisms. One of its elite group of high-containment centres around the world, the Winnipeg facility helped respond to the past Sept. 11 anthrax scare and it continues to play a prominent role in tracking the mosquito-borne West Nile virus. But its most challenging job is its response against the mysterious SARS, since mid-March, about 50 researchers have done thousands of tests on over 1,200 SARS virus samples drawn from more than 400 individuals. Long shifts can extend throughout the night, with staff cranking for a few hours on duty while waiting for test results. It's exhausting, acknowledges scientific director general Frank Plummer, but very exciting. "It's what we're here for," he says. "This kind of thing is why this lab was built in the first place."

The Winnipeg centre, which is Minister Jean Charest's town last week, is part of a well-worked 11-laboratory tapped by the World Health Organization to mount the clinical assault on SARS. At 8:00 a.m. Winnipeg time, the Canadians join a daily conference call with fellow scientists from Hong Kong, Singapore, Japan, Britain, France, the Netherlands, Germany and the United States. They exchange results, methods, theories. "I don't think this has ever happened before," says Plummer. "Usually, labs end up competing and don't



The most secure, level 4 facilities have been used to grow cultures and inoculate animals

share much information. Although everyone still wants to be the first one to figure this out, it's a healthier competition this time around."

In the beginning, the far-flung scientists had to cast a wide net, painstakingly ruling out dozens of known agents that might cause SARS-like symptoms. They have since zeroed in on a prime suspect—a coronavirus, which comes

from a family of viruses that normally cause common colds, and the respiratory viruses, those associated with mild respiratory infections, the theory under scrutiny, says Blumner, is that the two viruses somehow react together in a new way—possibly with the aid of a third, yet unknown agent.

For all the public fear of SARS, researchers on the front lines are working with relatively modest protective gear. The most sophisticated and secure unit at the Winnipeg facility is the biolevel level 4 lab, where researchers wear what look like space suits, connected to filtered airlines (it's designed to deal with highly contagious agents, including the deadly Ebola virus, that can be readily transmitted from person to person or animal to human). Right now, the level 4 labs are seeing only limited use, mostly for growing virus cultures and inoculating animals with SARS.

Most of the samples taken from SARS patients, including nasal and throat swabs, are considered less infectious than testing is being done in more open labs. In these units, staff simply don the coats, high efficiency breathing masks, gloves and eye shields. "The virus actually seems to be quite fragile," says Plummer. "Although lots of health-care professionals have been infected in various parts of the world, none have been lab personnel." Some comfort, perhaps, for Winnipeg's weary SARS warriors. **BRIAN BURGESS**

be seen whether any recovering patients suffer long-term lung problems.

**SARS HAS ALREADY** left a deep scar in the world of commerce. In a few cases, it has been good for business: pharmaceuticals sold out of the common cold and flu, and grocery delivery services experienced a spike in orders among the quarantined in the Toronto area. But there are new exceptions. Beverly Williams, president of the Toronto Industry Association of Canada, says it's too early to know the full impact on the sector, but it's hurting. Even its own group is dealing with cancellations from abroad for annual conference, show (aping Canadian travel), scheduled for next month at Vancouver. The show shows are closing both SARS and the war in Iraq.

With the travel industry suffering worldwide, SARS was just another annals of gloom, especially for Air Canada, which sought

**The trick, in these scary times, is finding the right balance between being reasonably cautious and putting your life on hold**


bankruptcy protection last week. Toronto's economy took a big hit when the American Association for Cancer Research cancelled a gathering of 12,000 of the world's best researchers. And it wasn't just the doctors—the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario called off scheduled partnering of 700 members in Toronto this week.

The trick, in these scary times, is finding the right balance between being reasonably cautious and putting your life on hold. For Barbara Kaufman in Hong Kong, it means not seeing pressure to follow fellow teachers

and friends back home to Canada. "You've got this constant worry, as soon as you step out your door, about everything from touching an elevator button to breathing in a small space," she says. "It's constantly on your mind." In Hong Kong, it's anybody's guess if another wave of infections is coming—and how big it might be. "But the good feeling," says Kaufman, "is that things are going to get worse before they get better."


To those who wonder if Canada's response to SARS has ultimately been overblown, Low insists that's not the case. "Can you imagine if this got into a school?" he asks. Besides, he adds, "we don't know the long-term consequences of these infections." As the battle continues against a new and dangerous disease, there's still room for optimistic-nervous optimism.

With Ken MacQuinn in Vancouver and Katherine Macleod and Cynthia Reynolds in Toronto



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The Iraq Conflict

# AFTER BAGHDAD

There was never any doubt about who would eventually win Gulf War II.  
But what comes next?



**GULF WAR II** It has always been about war, not if—there was never any doubt about the victor. Still, the speed with which coalition forces closed in on and then entered Baghdad last week was stunning. Biting the sleeve, U.S. warplanes bombed targets in the city, allowing U.S. tanks to roll relatively unopposed into the centre of the Iraqi capital. With Saddam Hussein's regime on the verge of collapse, members of his top command reportedly joined the exodus of thousands of civilians who were fleeing the city and heading toward the Syrian and Jordanian borders. The U.S. troops conducted their incursion as Iraqis fled. The 3rd Infantry Division (the "First to Fight") was the first to enter the city, but it was not the only one. Other units, including the 1st Cavalry Division, were also in the city, but they were not the first to enter. The 3rd Infantry Division was the first to enter the city, but it was not the only one. Other units, including the 1st Cavalry Division, were also in the city, but they were not the first to enter.



U.S. troops secured Baghdad's airport (left), while the British claimed they were even closer.

share of the reconstruction work. But he left the door open a crack. "This is not to say that we have to shut others out," the secretary of state allowed, "and not to say that we will not work in partnership with the international community, and especially with the United Nations."

In North America, meanwhile, fence-menders were out in force to mitigate any negative effect on cross-border trade. Federal Finance Minister John Manley offered regrets for anti-American comments made by some Liberals (page 44). Speaking in Toronto, the president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Theresa Donovan, soothed the fears of business people as a packed luncheon by saying Canada was still America's trusted trading partner even though it declined to join in the war. And tough talking

U.S. ambassador Paul Colletti, who'd publicly rebuked Canadians for not joining the United States in Iraq, also seemed to do the conciliatory bit. "We are friends, we are allies, we are neighbours, and we are family," the ambassador said in a speech in Montreal. "And nothing is ever going to change that."

The goodwill could again dissipate if the last stage of the war drags on or goes particularly bloody. Despite the optimism after last week's advances, serious concerns remained about possible street-to-street fighting in Baghdad and an increase in terrorist actions, such as suicide car-bombings that claimed 10 lives at military headquarters last week. And even if the conflict ends soon, worldwide worries remain that a prolonged U.S. presence in Iraq will bring more instability to the region. That's sadly ironic, since it's exactly the opposite of Bush's stated objective in that war.

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# GIRDING FOR A POST-WAR BATTLE

Installing a retired U.S. general to run the interim government would alienate the Arab world, writes **ARTHUR KENT**

**IN THE COURSE** of their assault on Iraq, US and British commanders no doubt relied over the old adage about winning the battle but losing the war. Their forbearance grew this famously when they blasted away at each other at Bunker Hill in 1775. King George's redcoats defeated the Americans on terrain (an array of irregulars, history notes), but the British forces sustained heavy losses and looked vulnerable that June day, presaging their ultimate defeat in the Revolutionary War at Yorktown six years later.

Today in Iraq, the two former foes claim they're united in keeping their eyes on the immediate prize—securing Iraq—yet they seem blind to the threat of long-term reverses, both political and military, in the region. Despite having reversed the volatile sympathies and allegiances of a predominantly Arab society trapped by war, the Bush administration (to the increasing dismay of its British ally) still plans to impose a US military administration on the conquered land and its people. This "Iraqi Interim Authority," under the ultimate command of Gen. Tommy Franks, is to be led by a retired American lieutenant-general, Jay Garner, who is a lightning rod for anti-American sentiment among Muslims. Garner has visited Jerusalem under the sponsorship of right-wing groups who believe the US can project its power into the region by way of the Israeli state and military. Three years ago, before his name was a statement by the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs advocating Palestinian leaders for backing rather than discouraging an outbreak of violence in Gaza and the West Bank.

"In the context of the road to peace," says British cabinet source David Maclean's last week, "the general represents a pretty substantial stepping backwards [Prime Minister's speed bump]. The Prime Minister is deter-

mined not to let this kind of obstacle get in the way after the war." Which is why both Tony Blair and his foreign secretary, Jack Straw, have spoken loudly and often about the need to place the administration of post-war Iraq in the hands of Iraqis, initially under United Nations auspices, as soon as possible. Blair foresees a three-stage approach, with a brief interim military authority followed swiftly by a transitional Iraqi body that would draft a constitution, making way, finally, for an elected Iraqi government.

However soothing this may sound to Western ears, to many Arabs it smacks of arrogance and hegemony. Yet the Bush administration has turned itself out, insisting that the US alone will be the avenger of the first stage of the process—90 days, they claim—though the White House has allowed that a UN-appointed "coordinator" may be added at some point. There's no question, however, about who'll be the new boss of Baghdad: Garner. "The whole idea—people first is really hard to swallow," says Manaf al-Hakawati, an elected council member of Britain's Royal Institute of International Affairs. "It doesn't see how Garner can be as good as a respected governor-in-far as the Arab people are concerned, particularly the Palestinians but also the Iraqis. People in the region won't take this lying down. Certainly they won't resist, they will defend, and this US policy will end with tragedy throughout the Middle East."

International affairs specialists warn that even as the coalition strength tears its military grasp on Iraq, Shi'a and Sunni forces will begin boxing each other and around the world—reforging an unpredictable, and potentially powerful, new unity. Says Paul Rogers, a professor at the School of Peace Studies at Britain's University of Bradford, "Eventually we're beginning to see a pan Arab



Garner has become a lightning rod for anti-American sentiment among Muslims; one line up to be searched at a checkpoint near the town of Najaf

movement in support of the Iraqis—not in support of Saddam Hussein, but in the support of an Arab state—which is perceived to be under attack and soon to be subjected to foreign occupation. At root, the sanctions process and war have turned the Iraqi people against the Americans in particular. Yet they persist with Garner."

The grim prospect of war ending more, not less, instability in the Gulf is not without precedent: this is, after all, Gulf War Two, a direct descendant of the 1991 conflict and its troubled aftermath. And it's not as if Washington isn't capable of making the same mistake twice: consider the underestimation by US war planners of the Iraqis' will to resist, or their assumption that invading soldiers would be viewed as "liberators."

Blair, says his critics, seems to be awakening to the dangers ahead. Rogers suggests Blair may not have initially understood Bush's long-range objectives, or perhaps he was simply doing his best to preserve the

transatlantic relationship in an absolute key part of British foreign policy. "But it also comes down to Tony Blair's almost messianic view of the world, which in some ways has very good points on issues like development and controlling climate change, but has severe weaknesses when he sees things in very simple terms of good and evil," Rogers says. "One has to understand that the neo-conservatives are a very unusual breed. They have no real recognition that the majority of the world, and Arabs in particular, simply see things in a different way."

And that's true of established men, not just militants. Asim Fofel Chulali, director of the Centre for Global Energy Studies in London, served as deputy head of OPEC for 11 years—after a long term as Saddam Hussein's acting oil minister. He quit Saddam's regime in 1991 and moved to Britain, and now says some elements of the American reconstruction plan for Iraq hold more

**Blair has spoken loudly about the need to place Iraqis—in the hands of United Nations auspices**

"Before this matter came to the fore," he said. Maclean's, "I was supporting the idea that part of the Iraqi oil industry should be privatised in order to bring in as much money and investment for the country and for the people as possible. Partial privatisation could speed up expansion of the oil industry and reconstruction of the country, and I believe it will benefit the economy."

But not under Garner's supervision. "Iraqis are very sensitive when it comes to being ruled by foreigners," says Chulali. "Even those who are very much against Saddam would still alienate under the command of

an American general. It is this [the United States and Britain's] moral obligation to reconstruct the country, to help create a new society free of foreign domination and dictatorship. However, Iraqis have to see the country reorganised initially, and I believe the Americans should understand this fact, and create conditions that don't make the Americans look like rulers."

Chulali, a widely respected energy analyst, is a distant cousin of the controversial opposition leader, Ahmed Chalabi of the Iraqi National Congress. Ahmed Chalabi is not only revered by many of his countrymen for lobbying to become the first post-Saddam prime minister, but also because Donald Rumsfeld's neo-conservative hawks at the Pentagon want a key role for him on Garner's team. Even the US State Department is seeking Chalabi's nomination—Secretary of State Colin Powell, once again at odds with Rumsfeld, is eager to create an administration more accept-



able to the region and the wider world.

To that end, Powell blazed the conference halls of Brussels last week, logging some 23 separate meetings with Russian, European Union and NATO foreign ministers. Some European leaders acknowledge their own frustrated and ineffectual policies until now contributed to pre-war failures in consensus-building in the UN. Almost all nations spoke of a desire to begin meaningful diplomatic forces. The one issue that might frustrate these efforts is the makeup of the post-war administration in Iraq. German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder insists that the UN have a prominent role. "How do you say 'No' in Tehran?" quipped British diplomat observing the Brussels talks. "Of course we, like the Germans and the French, will pound the table in the case of international legitimacy, but if the American talks making tracks into Baghdad. I doubt we'll make our presence felt for some time."

Little wonder that there is no prospect yet for a UN name to choose an Iraqi trustees council, as happened after the war in Afghanistan in 2001. Instead, the Bush administration intends to promote up to 100 of its own Iraqi candidates as advisers to Garner's 23 American department heads. Bushfield is said to have demanded personal approval of each and every appointee; former CIA director James Woolsey, another hawk, has been considered as Iraq's new minister of information. "What the Americans are after is not to create democracies," claims Kerkhofs. "They want to set up docile governments, regimes that will agree to them and will not argue. There are people running the U.S. administration who really believe they are part of the divine. God given order—they are the only people who can see the truth, nobody else."

Washington points to the record setting speed of its armored columns, and the humbling of once-mighty Republican Guard divisions along the invasion routes, as proof that its plan is sound. But it will be the post-war world that will be the most telling test of U.S. strategies, and not just around the bar grating tables in Baghdad, Brussels or New York. Defense analyst Rogers foresees a cycle of confusion in the Middle East, and as a target of terrorism. "You can imagine that the al Qaeda type personalities must be overjoyed," Rogers says. "They no longer need to be going to America, because the Americans have come to them."

## WHY THE PM IS RIGHT

ADAM ZIMMERMAN responds to Allan Gottlieb



He stands with the majority on this

Allan Gottlieb's March 23 essay—arguing that Canada should have joined the coalition against Iraq—generated a large response, for and against. One dissent in Adam Zimmerman, one of Canada's most distinguished business figures. Zimmerman, 76, is retired chairman and CEO of Menlo Park Inc., a former director of many companies, and Officer of the Order of Canada. His response:

**UNLIKE ALLAN GOTTLIEB**, I was proud of Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's decision on Iraq. It was a reasoned, popular move which showed Canada in its own self. It's notable that the other U.S. neighbors, Mexico, made the same decision: a fact that Canadian commentators wrap under the rug.

I could argue that my experience with and in the United States (excepting only the Washington atmosphere) is as profound as that of almost any Canadian. Known to Americans, as individuals, are fine, wonderful, generous people. But collectively, their national game is hardball—and winning is everything. Thus, notwithstanding the North American Free Trade Agreement, Canada is punished by the U.S. in trade in lumber, steel, wheat and fish, to name the big ones, because Americans won't accept our rules. Those terms are usually imposed when Americans think or talk of Canada.

Ambassador Calista might address them when she is making his visit.

To return to Chrétien's decision, it was as reasonable as the American one, which was gaily was an underhanded action in a de-

monstrous state. Remember the September vote that gave George W. Bush approval from the U.S. Congress to disarm Saddam Hussein with force if necessary? That vote was influenced by what is now known to be a falsehood: a report that Iraq was attempting to acquire a 500-ton shipcase of uranium oxide from Iraq. It seems clear that Britain and the U.S. were spreading false information to influence public opinion.

One can criticize the United Nations, but the world is a better place without them; with our Canada has always been a strong player in UN affairs, particularly in humanitarian and peacekeeping roles. So it was logical that the Prime Minister would ally Canada with the UN. If the UN had sanctioned military action against Iraq, Canada would have taken part, as opposed to supporting unilateral action by a minority. And Canada does have as many as 2,000 troops committed to relieve International Security Assistance Force troops in Afghanistan, as well as those ships operating in the Persian Gulf.

Those people to whom trade, growth and profit count more make the point that economic reprisals are reversible. Yes, economic security is really important, but the reverse is also true: perhaps we should put a value on what we mean to the U.S. Our power, big discounts, auto-parts manufacturing and materials like lumber, steel, newspaper and aluminum are as vital to the U.S. economy as their market is to ours. We just have played that card.

For a proper perspective, one has only to leave Canada and look at how we're perceived by others. If noticed at all, we're seen to be minuscule and minor. By standing up for what we believe in, our image is, if anything, strengthened. Being our own self cannot diminish us in Washington or elsewhere. As for influencing Washington, we do so best if we stand firmly behind our interests and beliefs. If we avoid relaxed PM and controversy, we're incredibly to be admired, and even emulated. It isn't worth adjusting our beliefs in the mere notion that we really will influence the U.S.—again, as will.

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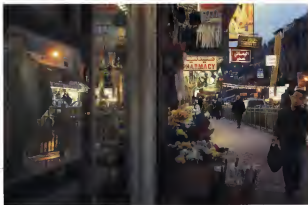
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## CASUALTIES OF WAR

The crisis next door is hitting Jordanians hard, writes JONATHAN GATEHOUSE

IT'S BEEN WEEKS since most of them have found work, but having your hopes dashed again isn't possible in a town with an empty belly. Lined up on the median, the rooks of their trades spread in their face, the day labourers try vainly to make eye contact with passing drivers. When a stranger stops, he is escorted in an instant and bombarded with the same question from all directions: "Are you looking to hire?"

Abdul Latif Abdul Hafiz, a master craftsman, can normally command 15 Jordanian dinars—about \$35—*a day* for his tile-laying prowess. But since the war came to neighbouring Iraq, there has been no demand for his services. With few leads to feed at home, he's willing to go for a third of his usual rate, or even spend the day begging

people in Amman face bleak choices—art home with an empty belly or scrounge for work even as profiteers try to take advantage

and bricks for two dinars—about \$4. "It's bad times," he says, almost apologetically. "I've got to pay the rent and the other expenses." Mohammed Badawi, a house painter, says the profiteers are already on the prowl. He and his crew would normally charge about \$1,800 for a good-sized villa. This week someone offered them a little more than \$500. "The guys who are making death like that are scum," he says. "But I feel even lower than them for having to accept." The only other option is to survive. There's not a lot of bargaining room in a country where one third of the population

survives on less than \$1.50 a day.

In a conflict where the casualties—civilian and military—are mounting daily, some of the worst collateral damage may be inflicted on a place that doesn't expect to see any bombs, missiles or gunfire. Jordan's economy, long subsidized by the flow of cheap Iraqi oil and heavily dependent on the markets of its larger neighbor, is already feeling the pinch. And a growing chorus is predicting dire consequences unless the U.S. moves quickly to shore up one of the few Arab nations still standing by its side.

"This is a scary situation," says Mazza Darwazah, chairman of Ikhlas Pharmacy, the largest privately held company in the country. "The real unemployment rate here is already close to 20 per cent. If

things get worse, there will be more and more frustration in the streets. And in this part of the world, frustration leads to extremists, and extremists lead to fanaticism." Sitting in a glass boardroom at his corporate headquarters in Amman, Darwazah lays out the same concise set of facts and figures he used to lobby members of the U.S. government for aid a few weeks ago.

Since 1991, in gratitude for the late King Hussein's support during the Gulf War, Iraq has been providing all of Jordan's oil at a deep discount—the price was the equivalent of about US\$8.50 a barrel. Now that the taps have been turned off, the country will be forced to pay world prices—currently about US\$28.50 a barrel—at an estimated additional cost of up to US\$5.1 billion a year. Iraq is also Jordan's largest trading partner, purchasing some US\$350 million in goods last year, about one-fifth of Jordan's total exports. And in addition that rely heavily on the cross-border trade, like transportation and pharmaceuticals (last year Darwazah's company did about 18 per cent of its business with Iraq under the UN Oil for Food program) and the total cost to the Jordan-

**"If things get worse, there will be more frustration. And in this part of the world, frustration leads to extremism."**

ian economy of this war could be as much as US\$2 billion—at least 10 per cent of the country's current GDP. "The economy will be in a total shambles within 24 months," says Darwazah. "And in the case of my own business, it's only going to be a couple more weeks before I have to start laying people off."

Tourism, the other engine of the Jordanian economy, has been dwindling since the start of the second intifada in neighbouring Israel in September 2000. The attacks on the World Trade Center and Washington a year later almost entirely stopped the stream of visitors. Today, as a matter of policy, the Jordanian Ministry of Tourism refuses to provide journalists with visas. Figures, but enjoy restaurants, hotels and attractions speak volumes. At Petra in the southern

desert, Jordan's premier historic site, there are no crowds peering through the elaborate tombs and temples that the Nabataeans carved out of the dusky red sandstone 2,000 years ago. On a recent weekend, the visitor's book had just 20 names, and only one American and one Iraqi—presumably travelling separately. "At this time of year, the high season, we'd often get 3,000 to 4,000 people a day," says Abu Radd, the man in charge of the visitors' centre. "Today we sell fewer than 40 tickets."

On the highway back toward Amman, the owners of the Al-Nakura Tourist House, a large restaurant and craft bazaar, can't even be bothered to turn on the lights. Sitting in the gloom, the chattering dishes for the buffet covered in plastic behind him, Ibrahim Mohammed spreads and fixes. Twenty local families depend on the meagre tip for their livelihood. They are all struggling to make ends meet. "We used to get thousands of people a day—20 or 25 buses at a time," says Mohammed. "The parking lot would be full." The day before he had just two customers. "It will get better, eventually."

But next last week of two alleged terrorist

plots by Iraq agents is unlikely to reduce members' apprehensions. In one, a crude incendiary device was detonated on an upper floor of Amman's Hajar Hotel, the temporary home of hundreds of journalists and officials, causing a small amount of damage. The other, a bid to poison the water supply in the village of Zarqa in the eastern desert near where some American troops are based, was still in the planning stages.

For Jordanians already bearing under the burden of their war-torn, it was simply more misery. In his offices above his Jeep and Chrysler dealership in downtown Amman, Hamad Tabbala, chairman of the Jordanian Businessmen Association, gestures in response to a question about his current prospects. "Unfortunately, I sell American cars," he says wryly. A former minister of trade and industry, Tabbala is in high dudgeon about what he and most of the 400 members of his elite organization see as a needless war. Although the U.S. administration recently awarded \$1 billion to help Jordan cope with higher oil prices, it is barely a lifeline, he says. "I'd can't replace the mountains of an economy. We already have a budget deficit and we're not in a healthy situation." Even if attacks eventually portend more funds, Tabbala has little optimism about the future. "Jordan has been through a lot of wars and crises—1948, 1967, 1973, 1991—but this one is bigger," he says. "It's hard to get a grip on the American agenda—just how far they want to go in this region. It's like the crusades. It's cowboy time."

A few blocks away, on a small patch of greenery in the shadow of some of Amman's most famous and long-standing houses, Suddan Rifaat and two of his younger brothers are handing their sheep into a tight circle and binding their necks together with a long string of fabric. Their family gets about \$1.50 a kilogram for the milk the sheep produce each day. Rifaat is not optimistic about the future either. "The price the farmers will get, the profits, as well as the business," gasoline for the car and kerosene for the heaters in the house will cost more. Everybody, rich and poor, will feel the effects. "We've been used to Iraq for so long. It's not going to be easy," he says. "I wish the Americans had thought a little more about all of this before they invaded."



## SAVING PRIVATE LYNCH

Jessica Lynch is a port, 19-year-old blond from handsome West Virginia who saw only one way out: join the military and get enough education to become a kindergarten teacher. Little did she realize her life as an army supply clerk was about to become the stuff of legend. Attacked and captured by Iraqi soldiers when her unit took a wrong turn in the desert, Lynch spent 18 apparently hellish days as a POW only to be rescued at a late-night raid. For a nation whose military machine was at that point being nibbled to death by deserters—too few soldiers, the pundits said, and word sends five-foot-four young women to a war zone?—she was the morale boost that seemed to kickstart the march to Baghdad.

The rescue of the Lynch—by U.S. special forces shooting their way in and out of her hospital complex—was almost pure Hollywood. Except, it's easy to forget, this was the first successful U.S. rescue of a POW since the Second World War, historians note. What's more, though military commanders made much of the credo of "never leaving a comrade behind," this raid was done on a number of fronts. After the celebrated failure to extricate American hostages from Iran in 1980, a rescue this time could have had the doubters put in full force. Tempering the glories, the raid was directed to the bodies of 11 dead soldiers. Nine were believed to be American, quite possibly the missing members from Lynch's 15-strong supply unit, a group that also included five POWs shown on Iraqi TV immediately following the March 23 ambush.

The rescue itself was comparatively planned. Marines set up a diversionary attack across the Euphrates River, while navy Seals and army



A dramatic rescue of a POW from West Virginia who "didn't have any gut"

Rangers rushed the Seals in hospital in An Najaf, where Lynch was being held, but none of this could have happened, if it emerged later, without the help of a compassionate Iraqi and his wife, a nurse at the hospital, who took pity on the smiling young POW. The man walked 18 km into the desert to surrender to U.S. troops, told them what he knew, then went back and forth so he could draw a series of maps showing where guards were stationed.

Meanwhile, an improbably named Rules-law, M. W., the Lynch family thought at first it was in April 1978, when authorities called to tell them of the rescue. But since the entire staff was reporting, two colleges have already offered Lynch financial assistance to become a teacher, though the extent of her injuries are not fully known. She is being treated in Germany for broken legs and ankles and a fracture in the spine. But Jessica's real scrapper, her old softball coach said: "She didn't have any gut." And her younger sister is set to enlist this summer, once high school's out. ROBERT SHERRARD

"Mr. Clinton (U.S. ambassador to Canada) has been a good friend to two governments. Mr. Bush and Mr. Clinton's. Yesterday he brought one of those friendships to a spectacular end. He is clearly coldly false as Mr. Clinton." — Paul Wells March 20, 2003

"The months since 9/11 have been a moral test. The Bush administration has passed with flying colors. Its opponents have failed. Politics can be a long slow business. But in the end, moral failure will be held to account—even in Canada." — David Frum March 22, 2003

"Watch as the government now scrambles to get back onside with the Americans, without the slightest trace of irony or self-respect. For all we care, we've just told them, you can die in the sand alone. But we're still your best friends, right?" — Andrew Coyne March 26, 2003



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## PLUS ÇA CHANGE...

The ADQ once seemed a threat, but Quebec's April 14 vote may be a rerun of elections past

THE PRESENCE of Mario Dumoulin's reform-minded Action démocratique du Québec has prompted to make this provincial election a three-way race that could accelerate political campaigning in Quebec. But, no. The wheels soon fell off Dumoulin's fledgling formation, his opponent, Parti Québécois Premier Bernard Landry and Liberal Leader Jean Charest, showed his momentum, pilfered his better ideas, and left Dumoulin stranded and limping in the home stretch to the April 14 vote. All that has turned the campaign into a series of Québec classic: a superstar and a fledgling dueling for the hearts and minds of differing audience rooms. And a bit of a repeat, too.

At first, nobody was paying much attention. The war in Iraq, of course. Also, thanks to Dumoulin's influence, he is the voice of constitutional change in Québec—a view widely understood that this would not be about secession or national unity. Then, no problem, no anxiety. But with the vote now widely approaching, Landry and Charest are in a tight race, with roughly 40 per cent of popular support each. Landry playing defence to Charest's offence. Dumoulin falling off the radar.

Forty per cent was the giddy height to which Dumoulin flew less than six months

ago, while Landry looked like a blundering, boorish has been and Charest like the eager beaver who never gets the job. How they have changed in such little time? Landry has been able to keep his famously hot temper in check. Previously hard-nosed bean-counter who eliminated the deficit, he has recently showered the province with more than \$1 billion worth of election goodies. And he's all smiles these days, with his new girlfriend, Chantal Renaud—a pop star in the '80s—always in his Renaults that they stop for a night for every afternoon. Work. Charest has run a tight, tough campaign, made five mistakes, and, appearing inspired and motivated, emerged the apparent winner of the March 31 televised leaders' debate. Québecers always fall for leaders who show guts and nerve.

Mario Dumoulin? The future is a long time, the lot will get other chances. He had two powerfully appealing messages that propelled him sky high, but he lost them both to his opponents. "Vote for change" is now Charest's undisputed robot. Landry ran away with "reconciling work and family"—a catchphrase aimed at the 450 area code bedroom communities that surround the island of Montreal. They had initially flocked

to Dumoulin's ADQ. But Landry has promised more and less clearly daycare, longer school days, and an optional four day workweek for parents of young children—pledges that seem to have taken the business community totally by surprise. All that—and a lot more for families vacationing in Québec.

Landry's unabashedly unconventional style has made it easy for Charest to hear the mantle of a small liberal. He promised to trim bureaucracy (hello, Mario!) and to focus resources on fixing the PQ's health-care mess. That—call it campaign magic if you will—Landry, who six months ago was even being held responsible for bad weather, acquired a new Teflon coat in the last few months. For a time, nothing stuck, not even the dismal problems of his government's *Caisse de dépôt et placement* du Québec, the \$1.5-billion services company that manages public pension funds and is awash in red ink. Landry was able to get away with telling hard-line supporters to prepare for the transition to an independent Québec, and then telling federalists it would be safe to vote for him.

Then, Jacques Parizeau stumbled along at the most opportune moment for Charest—condemning everyone of the former premier's controversial remarks on the night of the vote in the 1995 sovereignty referendum, in which he attributed the "No" side's loss to the effects of "money and the bribes." Parizeau repeated much the same thing during a speech to college students, setting up Charest to hammer away at the issue as the campaign entered its last stages. As a result, Parizeau withdrew from campaigning several days later, acknowledging that he had become a burden for the PQ.

Apollon's latest edition of Maclean's (later publication, *La Nouvelle*) shows the Québec electoral divided into five categories: 26 per cent dedicated separatists, 24 per cent soft separatists, 22 per cent dedicated federalists, 16 per cent soft federalists, and 11 per cent unapologetic. To win victory, Charest's Liberals need to finish a full on in seven points ahead of Landry's party. That means splitting serious trends in the francophone hinterland, where folk like it when ribbon-cutting Big Brother promises more schools or school bus parking plans. With one week left, and Landry breathing down his neck, Charest still has a long way to go.



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## DOING THE RAG TRADE RIGHT

A maverick's sweatshop-free approach works, KATHERINE MACKLEM reports

"I AM SITTING DOWN," says Doc Charney nonchalantly. He is doing what he's almost always doing: talking on his cell. And he's responding to Dave, a salesman with Charney's apparel company, who's calling in from Miami with bad news. Charney has just wrapped four days in Las Vegas at Magic Marketplace—the largest fashion trade show in the world. What Charney doesn't tell Dave is he's strong in the driver's seat of his 2002 silver Cadillac DeVille—and he is speeding across the desert to his home

Charney has targeted the most prolific purchasers of all—the children of boomers.

base in Los Angeles. Within a minute, his cell buzzes, rattled by his son and son-in-law, who are calling from Las Vegas. Charney leans forward, gripping the steering wheel as if it were the left of a man's seat, and yells his instructions to Dave into his headset. "HOLD!" he roars. "I want the word HOLD to be part of the f—ing message!"

It seems a major distributor has stiffed

Charney's company, American Apparel LLC, in favor of the competition. Worse, the competition is run up launched by former employees. Charney sighs if The Rat. In five years, Charney, a self-described neurotic Jew/Israeli, says, "When I'm not worried, I worry"—has built American Apparel into a \$354.48-million business. The company, which expects to double its sales this year, is still relatively small, with a base of 1,000 employees. But it's growing fast and Charney, a maverick and an innovator in retail-fash-



Backing the industry norms, American Apparel offers better pay and a clean workplace

ioned business, is challenging established players 50 times his size and a century older. He calls them The Monsters.

In an era when corporate responsibility is top of mind and in an industry notorious for its treatment of workers, Charney, 34, stands out. He makes clothing in a "sweatshop-free" environment—and, with sewing machines, labels, and pieces that vary. While most manufacturers have open callous sewing subcontractors or even factories in Third World countries, Charney's operation is in downtown L.A. His factory workers—who can move between sewing and migration support, English and computer classes, even on-the-job manager—can an average of \$35.19 an hour, with the potential of making much more. In a sector where

margin is slimmer than a scrawny model's—jackets are perhaps of a dime—American Apparel makes money, which Charney uses to fund the company's varied expenses. But how can it have a big pocket, and he'll likely fly. "It's a capitalist pig!" he exclaims.

That may be true—but it's not as much for effect as anything. Profane and provocative, Charney is punny and witty and sometimes appears scorned, but he moves, both in conversation and physically, in a flash. His mind is quick, he thinks on his feet and he keeps on top of details as well as the big picture. And for Charney, the big picture is big. "Consumerism killed. Capitalism works," he says. "Now we have to refine it." What he's doing is "next generation capitalism." Simply put, he wants everyone touched by

the business—shareholders, managers, workers, customers—to be well treated. It's less about money, more about process. And the product.

American Apparel manufactures T-shirts, all-cotton sweats, tank tops, polo shirts and pajamas, sold primarily in the so-called unprintable market—that is, clothing with nothing printed on it. The blank shirts are sold to distributors, who turn up with price on to sell their own organizations—franchise businesses to strip clubs—as promotional material for customers, and, of course. Three companies dominate the business: U.S.-based Hanes Corp., owned by Sun Lee Corp., Fruit of the Loom Ltd., which was rescued from bankruptcy about a year ago by Warren Buffett's Berkshire Hathaway Inc. and Montreal-based C&A Apparel Inc. Typically, the T-shirts for this market are big, boxy, one size fits all—the ones that tend to stay at the bottom of the drawer. Not Charney's. His shirts fit right, and appeal to young people. By creating a fashionable look for a standard commodity item, and selling it at the next big market—the children of boomers—Charney is producing clothes that kids want to wear, that shops want to stock, and that have begun to change the unprintable business.

**STOPPING FOR LUNCH** between Vegas and L.A. at the Mad Greek in Baker, Calif., Charney plans his strategy. If the distributor carries The Rat's shirts, which are strikingly similar to Charney's, Charney won't sell the distributor anything. He'll beguile his greater variety, and deliver faster—and he's ready to play chicken. He's calmed down.

Charney, who usually wears his own shirts, vintage Levi's and a pair of overcast glasses, grew up in Whittier, the middle Anglo son of a Montreal. His ancestors, he says, have been merchandise carriers. Only his parents' generation doesn't fit the mold. His father, Martin Charney, is a well-known Montreal artist. His mother, Sylvia Solbe, is a world-class artist. His uncle, Monte Solbe, is the internationally acclaimed architect who designed Habitat 67 for Moshe Safdie. By his own account, Doc Charney has always been a hyperactive overachiever. At 11, he launched a newspaper, selling ads to local shops and convincing friends into writing notes. As a youngster, he would haul staff from his home on Greenvale Avenue down to busier Sherbourne Street and, much

The trade-show models are attractive and healthy—hey, don't have a cosmetic concern?

to the disdain of a shopkeeper on the corner, set up his own sidewalk sale. Once, he sold his mother's clothes when she wasn't home. He says that when the spring-water hose begins, he even sold runoff water collected at the side of the road in glass bottles. In his last year of high school, Charney was a founder at Chaste Rosemary Hall in Connecticut where he discovered heavy cotton T-shirts—ones created by his friends back home. Soon, he was selling off-innocent ties in Cabot Square across from the Memorial Firehouse and his passion for the T-shirt was born.

By the early '90s, Charney was in South Carolina, working to establish a T-shirt manufacturing business. It flopped, as did much of the garment industry in the Carolinas, and he moved to Los Angeles. In 1996, he hooked up with Sam Lutz, a partner who spent the background. Qualifying Charney says: "There are three rules: It's tight-fitting; it runs up the garment; it will not fade! It goes! Do they know—meaning, does the customer know about the product? Third, can they get it? Price is irrelevant." T-shirts \$11.99 or \$14.95, does your T-shirt exist?—if it wears up."

His goal is to make the perfect T. What's important is the cotton—and he uses 30-ounce, combed ring-spun yarn. The lighter the cotton, the finer the thread. Explains American Apparel's VP of operations, Mary Bailey: "A typical heavy-weight T-shirt is made with 18 gauge, and rather than ring spin, in yarn is the less expensive open-end cotton, which provides a coarser 'hand,' or feel, Bailey says. American Apparel products are softer, and lighter, than the standard T."

And secret: Part of the story does Charney and T-shirts is the story of Charney and choice. "Look at that girl," he says, at the Magic Marketplace show in Las Vegas in June to the afternoon, eating a late sandwich lunch. His eyes keep darting to a model at a nearby booth who is wearing a jeans skirt that, with an improbable sweep of fabric, is a short mini on the left and a mid-thigh skirt on the right. She's wearing one of his tops, with a scoop neck and little sleeves in white short-sleeved, a fabric with a 40-ounce yard. The top is tight and she, as the boys used to say, unclothed. "She's pretty, with dimples in her cheeks." "Can I help it," Charney



**The 100-per-cent cotton shirts are softer, and lighter, than the standard T. And sexier. 'Women want to be desired and in control,' Charney says.**

"Women want to be the midwife, say girl," Charney says. He's smiling to capture the image of the girl at a school who acts the trends, who all the others aspire to be. The Cool One. "Women want to be desired and in control—and that's what they see when they see these phones." He says the average model in his ads is five foot five, and 125 pounds. "We don't have steroids here. We don't have the girls girl, we have the cotton girl."

**BY DISMANTLING** the day following Charney's drive from Vegas to L.A., the distributor has headed down. He's arrived in bed with the Rat, and signed on with Charney Lutz, Charney discovers the distributor is quietly carrying The Rat's clothing—and Charney puts all his product. Charney down plays the story. "It's not a big deal."

But it is, of course. Charney intends to make American Apparel a household name. "The T'll be one of the brands that become part of the American landscape. It will exist for me," he says. His role: models include Lutz, and the way it includes the boomers generation, and Hines. He's talking in his walking, but stops abruptly and looks off a Puma and goes on sleep. Hines is watching across the side. A hand darts down the front of his pants to push up under them. Hines, again. "I've been wearing them since Grade 9," he says. Perhaps that's not so surprising now? "No way I'll be living on it in a certain way, you know what I mean?" In the factory, Charney greets workers

like long lost cousins. loudly and effusively. They smile and wave to be gone by Lane. Charney put in place a new system designed with Bailey, of operations. Instead of rows of workers on an assembly line, sewing machines operators now complete garments in teams. One will attach a sleeve, another the neckline binding. Their machines are placed down in a circle so the items are passed—flung, really—from one to the next. When the change was finished, workers staged a mini factory floor revolt, stopping production for a couple of hours. But after the system was better explained—including how they could make up to 100 shirts without—workers returned to their machines. Now, because operation are paid on volume, needles fly at top speed.

While the traditional garment manufacturer, especially the shirtless T-shirt maker, chafes the choppy process—which typically means offshore work—American Apparel does everything except dyeing in-house. "Because we are essentially integrated, we are extremely efficient and flexible," Charney says. "Manufacturers work with photographers and graphic designers, finance people work with production people, technology people work with sales people, at once."

Last December, a New York City denim store called at 2 p.m., Pacific time, wanting 1,000 black T-shirts for the New York Police Department—the next day, Bailey recalls. There were shirts in stock, but there was cloth. To be shipped as soon, the shirts had to be cut and sewn by 5:30 p.m., an impossible task for an offshore manufacturer. But because of Charney's team process and in-house production, the shipment made its deadline. "There's no one else in the country that can do that," Bailey says.

In addition to selling T-shirts through its website, Charney has begun selling to retailers, and direct to consumers via the Web. He's struck a deal with Bang-On Ltd., a three-year-old Vancouver retailer that's beginning to open shops across the country. Shoppers pick out a design—hundreds of choices line the walls—that is made directly onto a T-shirt. Bang-On has agreed to use only Charney's garments, and to promote the American Apparel brand. Charney says that American, an owner of Bang-On, is establishing a middle ground in the T-shirt business—between the high-end designer tag and cheap T-shirts. "There are very few in the forward, fashion-conscious T-shirt Char-

**"What he's proving," Anselmi says, "is it's possible to be an ethical apparel manufacturer—and still be grown more than any other T-shirt company."**

ney has also helped Anselmi along the way with advice and expertise. "You can say I'm very generous, which it is, but he's also very smart," Anselmi says. "What he's proving is it's possible to be an ethical apparel manufacturer—and still be grown more than any other T-shirt company."

Charney's innovation of flowing down the growth—and he's pushing at new boundaries. He's looking for cotton grown with synthetic pesticides for new line called Sustainable Edition. He's talking with K&D people about developing a computerized sewing process. He says he wants to open a factory in China, for the Chinese market, where he'll pay the U.S. minimum wage. He works hard, sending e-mails and low-

ing voice messages late at night. He occasionally stops to watch a film, say his assistant, but often, he's back on his Black Berry or the phone. He can be surprising to work for, say some co-workers, but they don't see the long days at his side, inspired by his vision and passion.

Charney's unconventional approach seems to be working. His success allows four venture capitalists eager to get in on the action: the turn of the turn, saying he doesn't want outside interference. Workers, too, are pleased. In his office is a poster featuring signatures from the factory workers thanking Charney for supporting them in a march to grow the movement of undocumented workers. On the public front, he is tapping into a growing anti-globalization movement. Just this past winter, L.A. Board of education decided to buy only sweatshop-free products for its schools. Even the forward-looking prig master, Charney knows this trend won't last. "We can't expect people to buy on guilt forever," he says. "True, especially when you're out there like The Rat and The Monsters."

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# 'A HIGHLY EMOTIONAL TIME'

The deputy prime minister speaks out about Canada-U.S. relations

**THESE ARE DIFFICULT** days in the critical Canada-U.S. relationship. Insults are being hurled across the world's longest undeclared border. The American anthem was booed at an NHL hockey game and a traveling U.S. soccer hockey team was recently confronted with anti-American epithets while visiting Montreal. Meanwhile, Canadian snowbirds are finding the reception south of the border no less hostile—some have had their tires slashed. Deputy Prime Minister John Manley, perhaps the most pro-U.S. minister in Jean Chrétien's cabinet, says this is as regrettable as it was avoidable. Last week, Manley, who is also the finance minister and Canada's point man on cross-border security issues, spoke to *Maclean's* Ottawa correspondent Julian Bellamy on what needs to be done to rebuild the Canada-U.S. relationship, and other issues surrounding the invasion of Iraq.

**Is the Iraq war tearing Canadians and Americans against each other?**

It's a highly emotional issue. People are being hurt and there's more imagery on television and those who are offended by the war are likely to feel out of the U.S., while those who feel they have been abandoned by their friends when their backs are at risk will turn out at Canada. It's not a rational thing, but I think this will pass.

**This animosity hasn't just come from ordinary people. Some Liberal MPs have also engaged in this kind of activity.**

I tried to warn people off this before anyone even said anything. It's perfectly fair to be critical on the basis of principle and policy. But it's wrong to be personal about the American people or the President or the government. The former discussion can be held without creating problems, the latter discussion is totally unhelpful. I think that message has now been delivered. I think people who have said things have heard it from their constituents in a way that is of more consequence than hearing it from me.

**Canada's military is helping America indirectly, but we're getting no credit. Are we doing a bad selling job on the many ways we are helping the U.S. fight terrorism?**

I think our political system was more important to the U.S. than our military support. But I think even making the decision not to support the U.S. in the war with Iraq would have been alright with the American government had we not had some of those comments we've talked about. The problem is we didn't try to sell what we were doing, and, in fact, made our political objections in ways that were inappropriate.

**There have been reports that you personally favoured joining the U.S.-led coalition. Is there any truth to that?**

Someone was anonymously quoted saying that. I think it's a very bad principle to talk about what anybody said in cabinet. My position is entirely consistent with the government's.

**Some have said Ottawa's decision was partly based on the election in Quebec—that supporting the U.S. would make things difficult for Quebec Liberal leader Jean Charest.**

That was not a factor in any discussion. I was involved in it. I don't think you can make long-term foreign policy based on a provincial election. You've got to have principles that stand the test of time better than that.

**Who should be in charge of the reconstruction of Iraq after the war, the U.S. or the United Nations?**

There's capacity issues here with respect to reconstruction and governance. British Prime Minister Tony Blair was pretty clear in saying that an occupying force with U.S. generals running every department will not work, that this would be really dangerous for America and counterproductive. So it is absolutely imperative that we find some kind of co-operative mechanism for maintaining order and re-establishing a functioning economy and society in Iraq after the war.

**What kind of role could Canada play?**

That's got to be worked out with our partners. Obviously we'll be providing humanitarian assistance. But we can probably help in other ways, in reconstruction of infrastructure—pipelines, oil wells, water filtration, public services, that sort of thing. One would hope an Iraqi civilian government with police would be able to enforce security. But here, too, we have the experience to help out. When I was in Kosovo, I met quite a few Canadian police who were there to help with the establishment of local police forces.

**Are you optimistic about the post-war scenario in Iraq?**

It's probably beyond my knowledge. But before embarking on a series of wars, Iraq had quite a prosperous economy and was building a lot of the architecture of a modern state. I hope that could be restored. But you've got different groups—Shiites in the south and Kurds in the north, so building a broader consensus will take some effort and care. We haven't exactly got Afghanistan rebuilt yet, so there's a lot of lessons to be learned in trying to establish a functioning government in a country that's endured a dictatorship or conflict of this nature.

**How badly have Canada-U.S. relations been damaged?**

It's too soon to judge that. The important thing is what we work very enthusiastically on the ongoing agenda. We have to really strongly reassure our neighbour that we are as committed about North American security as they are. I don't think we have a lot of choice on that. Continuing to deal with our ports and airports, continuing to coordinate our processes and procedures, investing in security and intelligence—all this is vital to rebuilding that relationship. Because at the end of the day, governments come and go, different people are in different offices, but at an institutional level we've got to make sure the continental relationship works.



**Do you believe, as some of your colleagues do, that the U.S. will become too dominant?**

The U.S. sees security as its principal concern and is looking at what can be done to protect itself. So in the absence of an international response to those concerns, it is going to increasingly act on its own. That's one thing Canada is in good position to do—helping get the global community coordinated to build broader responses on these issues.

**Do you think the U.S. will seek to punish Canada on trade matters?**

There will always be trade issues, some we

might resolve, others may come along. But over time, I think initiatives will pass and relationships will be restored. Look—we had a sawtooth lumber dispute after the first Gulf War and, in that case, we were constrained along with the Americans. Going to war doesn't solve issues, and, frankly, we can't be in a position where we send our young men and women to war because we think it'll be better for the economy.

**There are signs that the U.S. economy is slowing down. Do you have any gauge on how the war is affecting our economy?**  
It's clearly having an impact on some sectors,

like travel. Our own indicators for Canada remain quite strong and the forecasters still look for pretty strong growth in the U.S. economy as well. At this point, we're definitely not worrying about a recession.

**When are we likely to see you formally launch your leadership campaign?**

I've paid my money. I've said I was a candidate, I've raised money. Just to avoid confusion we may decide to have a launch event soon. But I'm out meeting people, I'm travelling, I'm having functions, so there's no doubt there's a campaign going on. I'm in it until I'm not in it.



## GOOD REASON TO HOPE

The future has never been brighter, according to one accurate indicator

WHEN THIS MOST celebrated of men began with a massive display of power, stock markets soared. The U.S. networks' collection of retired colonels and generals assured us that the Saddam regime was so weakened that the war could not last long.

Well, they got that wrong. That Star Wars was the first unabashedly good news stock market had heard in months, and they responded with a runaway relief rally. Some pundits proclaimed the birth of a new bull market.

Well, they got that wrong. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld had opposed giving the army all the troops and time its cautious commanders asked for. He believed that troops called "shock and awe" from the skies would obviate the necessity for the kind of patient, costly buildup of ground troops and materiel that Colin Powell had organized with such effectiveness for Desert Storm.

Well, he got that wrong. The first news hawk on the Bush administration—Richard Perle—has never expressed concerns that he contributed heavily to the President's decision to invade. In the end of Perle's view, he had to step down as chairman of an unpaid Pentagon advisory commission when it was revealed that he accepted a large fee for advising Global Crossing, one of the more egregious of the dot-com booms, in its dealings with the Pentagon.

Well, he got that wrong. The market responded by overreacting to its booms' ways, led downward by the renewed weakness of the American dollar. What do important investors think has ahead?

A three-day series of meetings last week with major international accounts in New York and Boston revealed widespread concern that the war could prove too costly for the weakened U.S. economy. Although none expressed opposition to the war, some wondered whether the administration's hardline may have been overly optimistic. They worry that the disappointment and repugnance many Americans are now be-

ginning to feel could lead to a renewed bear phase for stocks.

The most bullish investor I met is a leading hedge fund operator. I asked whether he thought the war would be over by Passover (April 16). He smoked his pipe, thought for a minute, then said, "No, not by Passover, but maybe within a month thereafter." He expressed concern that even a short war might prove to be too much for the stock market, which needed good news, given the problems with corporate earnings and the economy. He sketched a scenario in which gloom about the war and the even deeper gloom about the economy would drive U.S. stocks through their low of late July and October, triggering capitulation among mutual fund investors. "I believe that the average fund investor who contributed through the 1990s has a cost base equating to roughly 75% on the S&P 500," he said. "When the market breaks below that level, you'll see liquidation like you've not seen, and that will finally give us a market bottom. The bottom will come when nobody asks you when the rally is coming, because they don't care any more."

We then talked about the implications of a war being fought on terms that has fig. used as heavily in both the Bible and the Koran. An Nuwayrah, an oil broker gone bad, is close to Abraham's battles, Ur, and the area in the northern midlands that could become the flashpoint among Saddam, the Kurds and the Turks includes what tradition claims is the site of the fiery furnace, in which the prophet Daniel's companions Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego survived their staff. We agreed that

history has a way of dealing with rules in this region and agreed that Saddam would soon pay some big, bad names.

Much of the discussion focused on the implications of the American dollar's bear market. Most of these experts invest globally, and they are all trying to figure out when and at what level the dollar will stabilize. None seemed to think the dollar's recent rally was other than a bear market amp-backup response to Bush's muscular display in Iraq. Once the war ends and the U.S. is picking up the lion's share for rebuilding the economy, and stepping from France and Germany (and some other formerly reliable allies who will remain restless), the dollar could look pathetically feeble.

What unsettled them most was my argument that there could be an upside surprise in the global economy for the year because of the recent remarkable performance of the TED Spread. The TED (Treasury Bill Eurodollar) Spread is the interest rate difference between Eurodollar-denominated deposits in banks outside the U.S.—and American treasury bills. The higher the spread, the lower the confidence in the banking system and the greater the premium for global financial liquidity. For 25 years, this financial barometer has been 100 per cent accurate—it has never failed to jump when there were troubles coming in the global banking system. Last week, it was trading at an unbelievably healthy all-time low of 14, which means in consolidating several trillion in bank deposits are supremely confident and content to get paid 0.14 per cent more than they could earn in risk-free Treasuries. The central bankers have reflected the system and all that is needed now is a modest pickup in business confidence.

During past dollar bear markets, economic growth abroad outpaced that in the U.S. Conversely, during periods when the U.S. dollar's value was rising sharply, the American economy tended to outperform economies abroad, as happened during the greenback bull market from 1995 to 2002, when U.S. consumers carried the world.

Right now, smart investors aren't too gloomy to place their bets. They may do so ASAP (After Saddam's Abdication or Perish). That can't come too soon for the economy and the markets.

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Column | BARBARA AMEL



## ANSWERING MY CRITICS

Readers say I was wrong to predict that  
joy will meet the liberators of Iraq

**THE AMORIZING DILEMMA** of helping the Iraqi people by bombing them was the subject of my last column ("Why Civilized People Kill," March 17). In it, my view was skewed against any war protesters claiming to march out of concern for the Iraqi people. I wrote that "disrupting Saddam's regime will genuinely be a liberation for the people of Iraq, and when it happens the liberators will be greeted with the same extraordinary joy that met the Allies in France, or 2001 in Afghanistan." Within days of the first attacks, letters arrived describing the air assault, demanding an apology when the true feelings of the Iraqi people are revealed. I found the letters quite telling.

E-mail writer Barry Greenberg from Nijmegen, Japan, revealed all his opinions in the sentence, "The last time the U.S.A. tried on a large scale to invade an Asian country, Vietnam, nationalists in pyjamas (who the Americans called 'Goonies') deflated them."

Actually, it was the "nationalism in pyjamas" who called themselves "Goonies," and still do. Greenberg's view that the "ugly influence" of nationalism will cause much of the Iraqi population to "only around their brutal dictator" ignores the same nationalism and sectarianism in Kuwait and Iraq who want to see Saddam in hell. Nationalism is a usually stupid force and those who invoke it are easy to face it on the part of others. Greenberg states that the initial letters he got were from Iraq "truly hate America primarily" then support of Israel. Clearly, Greenberg keeps bad company.

Joan Rothberg of Leffingwell, Ala., said I seem "so thick growing up in 1940s London makes [me] an expert on Iraq in 2003." I don't think it makes me an expert on anything, including growing up in London in the 1940s. I grew in a very small window into the war of war. I rely for my opinions on reading and interviewing people with an intimate knowledge of the subject under discussion. Mr. Rothberg contrasts what she calls my "magnified flights of imagination" with a

Q&A in the same issue of Madonna's with a Dr. David Swann. What apparently pass Swann's work in a more favourable light is that he spent four weeks in Iraq where he met an Iraqi woman who said she would fight the invading Americans "with my kitchen knife."

I have no doubt one could spend four weeks in Iraq and meet such a woman. I met a lot of people in the former German Democratic Republic who said they'd fight the Americans if they tried to come down the Berlin Wall. An evidence of how the people of Iraq will react to the coalition forces. Dr. Swann's anecdote is as meaningless as the Iraqi refugees on television in the last few weeks capturing their country over the impending fall of Saddam.

Mr. Rothberg wonders where the Iraqi "joy" I spoke of will come from, since the United Nations predicts up to 500,000 casualties and as many as 1.5 million refugees and asylum seekers. Going with such judicious is risky in the third week of the war, neither large-scale casualties nor refugees have materialized any more than those widespread predictions that the Afghanistan war was going to make that country's liberation impossible.

I am rightly biased against people whose research is insufficient to support my first name currently such as Orin Stiglitz of Stanford, Ala., who writes that the "big story now" is how much Iraqis are prepared to resist the Anglo-American invasion. His night has been safe building off sitting this letter for a bit.

The resistance so far has been highlighted by the vicious but militarily insignificant

act of a suicide bomber who approached a U.S. military checkpoint during a late raid, according to initial reports, the waving of a surrender. Four American soldiers stopped him, asked him to open his trunk, which he did, exploding the car and killing all five of them. Irregulars and some Republican Guards have also set up armories and other military targets in, or close by, ancient ruins, schools and hospitals, thereby intentionally acknowledging the moral retributive of the coalition who are less likely to attack these. The "big story" out of Iraq is that in 14 days the coalition forces reached the outskirts of Baghdad with minimal civilian and Iraqi casualties.

Like most societies, Iraq is not monolithic. Reaction to the liberating forces will vary to some degree. As predicted columnist George Jones has written, the Iraqis will split into groups including those who welcome individual freedoms and the coalition, Kurds and Shiites will largely rejoice in the removal of their brutal oppressors, Arab "nationalists" who will resent Westerners as occupiers, Muslims who will view them as "crusaders," Iraqis who were part of Saddam's regime, or benefited from it, and clearly won't be throwing flowers.

Many Iraqis, remembering the ill-fated invasion in 1991, when the first George Bush encouraged them to rebel against Saddam and then was derailed, will be afraid to say anything until they are sure Saddam is history. Ordinary Iraqis whose heroism don't extend much beyond their daily lives may see the coalition as either liberators or oppressors, but something to be endured and overruled.

For the joy of liberation expressed in the Nazi-occupied territories after 1945 was not diminished by the fact that jobs had continued to grow, or that some of the people who greeted the liberators didn't stay long far long and appeared American athletes later. Just because nothing solves all problems forever and life goes on doesn't alter the fact that when Saddam's regime is overthrown, the major theme in Iraq will be one of immense pleasure and relief. The rationale for the post-war Iraq is probably that of a wedding. It will, some Madonna readers notwithstanding, be a time of some dreary joy, but it doesn't necessarily mean happiness forever after.

Barbara Amel's column appears monthly  
in [barbaramel.com](http://barbaramel.com).

**Nationalism is a many-edged sword and those who invoke it usually have to face it on the part of others**

\*Market Minutes are available during market and after-market sessions.



## FORGOTTEN TRUTHS ABOUT CAMP X

On the shores of Lake Ontario, a Second World War school flourished

**IN THE FLAT,** guyetherworld spinning the outer limits of Winby and Odious to seven lectures of strongly brushed and mink-lined. Someone has planned a line wooden picnic table down in the middle of the field that slopes towards the waters of Lake Ontario. Beside it is a billboard announcing Imperial Park. Visitors to the "jude" encounter rooms all signs, telling of an earlier, authentic neofuturist. This is what's left of Camp X, a top-secret Second World War spy-training and radio-communications centre operated by British-Security Coordination. Here, scores of men and women came through its gates to learn the art of silent murder and other tricks of war. Its architect was none other than Sir William Stephenson, the Winnipeg-born industrialist perhaps better known as the Man Called X.

The man had a post one look to this clandestine post. Agents, spies, commando leaders,

Les Davis (above) taught others how to intercept radio signals behind enemy lines

refugee machines, Morse code hand keys, uniforms, training manuals and even one of the three original barracks are among the artifacts that the Camp X Historical Society has assembled over the years. The society, founded in 1999 by a handful of the camp's veterans, hopes one day to build a museum on the site, to pay tribute to those who played a secret but vital role in winning the Second World War.

Also reaching out from the past are countess stories flavoured with the names Ian Fleming, Igor Gouzenko, Wild Bill Donovan, Ronald Dahl. But sorting fact from fiction is a monumental task, as most of the camp's records were destroyed, censored or labelled "classified" after it closed in 1946. The veterans can rely only on their memories—

memories which, often 80-year-old Evelyn Davis, a Camp X communications operator from 1944 to 1946 (known then by her maiden name Tinsley Jamieson), may be a bit rusty. "For 50 years," adds Davis, who now lives in Toronto, Ont., 36 km north of Toronto, "it was gone out of our minds. There's so many things you wonder, can it be true or not?"

But Davis's husband, Les, 84, whom she met at the camp, still vividly recalls his mission to this world of espionage. Having trained as an amateur radio operator, Les was about to take his exams when Canada entered the war and shut down all non-military communications. The Hamilton native, who lost his left arm at 13 in a bicycle accident, went to work in a bank factory. Early in 1942, a British security operative named Bill Cameron phoned Les and suggested he could make "a more important contribution to

the war effort." With little else to go on, Les and several other recruits showed up at Toronto's Royal York Hotel. There, Cameron informed them to start up the invitations that had arrived following their initial contact and flash them down the toilet. "We did so, which seemed unusual," says Les, adding that he soon began to wonder, "what the hell am I teaching?" He found out later that day at Camp X. The first lesson of his two-month training session was "rather educational," he recalls. "We learned how to kill a person silently—in a short time."

Commando-style killing, parachute drops, wilderness tactics, plastic explosives. The spy school drilled its recruits in all these skills. Joseph Gelfrey, a Hungarian-born Canadian now living in Austin, Ore., entered Camp X in 1943. "We were trained to live by our wits, in any circumstances," he recalls in his memoirs *Abuse*. "On one occasion, I was dropped off in Toronto, dressed in the uniform of a German soldier. My assignment was to take photographs of war material production factories. If picked up by the Toronto police, I was expected to be able to talk my way out." The following year, that training served him well, helping him escape capture and torture behind enemy lines in occupied Hungary.

In a 1973 interview, Stephenson—who died in 1989—estimated that up to 2,000 men and women graduated from the Ontario spy school he conceived and worked with from his New York City headquarters. Most were Hungarian returning to their homelands to join the resistance against occupying Nazi or the American at Camp X, Maj. Gen. William F. (Wild Bill) Donovan, is particularly fond. As head of the U.S. Office of Strategic Services, he dispatched operatives who would form the core of the post-war Central Intelligence Agency to train on the shores of Lake Ontario. And, according to Camp X Historical Society president Matthew Batten, the nickname for the agency's headquarters in Langley, B.C., "the Farm," as nod to the former farm on which the camp was built. James Bond creator Ian Fleming, who, as a commando in the British intelligence office, advised Donovan on setting up the CIA, also visited Camp X.

But espionage was only half the story. Camp X, says Les Davis, "grew into a prime—and I mean prime—communications centre." Davis's job teaching others how to transmit



William Stephenson, the Man Called X retired, established Camp X that few knew existed

and intercept radio frequencies when he had enemy lines. Also, to ensure an easy and secure flow of information between Stephenson's New York office and British intelligence at Bletchley Park, 70 km outside London. "We didn't have any plain language," says Evelyn, who typed out the incoming messages. "It was all in five-letter code groups." While the staff couldn't read the cryptic messages, advances in traffic would use them to make developments. When the Allies landed in mainland Italy in September 1943, says Les, "we achieved a million groups per day. That's a million five-letter codes," up from a daily average of 50,000.

Whether it was spy training or communications, secrecy was paramount. Because Camp X was hidden from view from the main highway, few knew it existed. The culture there was that its most prominent feature, the antenna, belonged to the CBC—a move that involved the co-operation of the broadcaster's general manager. Other Cam-

pus in the know included Defence Minister James Duggan, RCMP Commissioner Stuart Wood, and the top staff of the Greater Toronto Military District. But Prime Minister Maclean's King was apparently kept in the dark. Only at the end of the war, when the government was looking for a clubhouse in which to debate Russian spy-racket defector Igor Gouzenko, was the camp brought to King's attention.

While the camp's stories are, according to Batten, "too good to keep hidden," it's also true that they are next to impossible to corroborate. "This is the wonderful thing about espionage," he adds. "Nothing exists any more." Or so governments would have us believe. And here we come to one dark story, the one about children's author Ronald Dahl (Jensen) and the Giant Peach, *Charlie* and the Chocolate Factory.

A British operative wounded during the war, Dahl was sent to New York to convalesce. From there, he made his way to Camp X, where he was one of several veterans charged with documenting its activities. Dahl's observations were included in a manuscript that was intended, according to Batten, as a "blueprint of British intelligence operations in North America." Twenty copies were printed and bound in leather (by an Odessa press, which is now in the possession of the historical society). Stephenson tossed 10 in a safe somewhere in Montreal, but later ordered them destroyed. The remaining 10 manuscripts he sent to leaders of the free world and intelligence organizations. When and where they will surface if ever they do is as much a mystery as their content.

With Marc White



The artist, shown in his Toronto loft and with Dylan at the 1997 Grammy's (opposite), recorded part of his new album in Mexico because "there's a mystique down there that I like, and a sense of the psychedelic. They live closer to death; it's celebrated, a bit like the way it is in Ireland."

## 'SOUL-MINING' FOR SONGS OF GOLD

With a string of hits behind him, studio wizard Daniel Lanois goes solo again

DANIEL LANOIS remembers the first time he met Bob Dylan, and ended up cutting a record with him in a kitchen. It was 1989. Lanois was recording the Neville Brothers' album *When Love Takes Over* in a studio he'd built on the top floor of a five-story apartment building in New Orleans. Dylan needed a producer for his next album, and Lanois had recommended Lanois—who had put U2 on the map with *The Unforgettable Fire* and *The Joshua Tree*. As Dylan took a seat in the control room, Lanois pushed the playback button, and out came Aaron Neville's ethereal falsetto—singing Dylan's own *When God on Our Side*, complete with a new verse that Neville had written. When it was over, Lanois recalls, "Bob turned to me and said, 'That sounds like a record.' A very big compliment from Bob. He's a pretty smart cat, and I think he could sense he was getting me at a good time. He knew something was on the ball."

Lanois suggested Dylan record his album in New Orleans. "I said, 'I'll take care of everything. For \$150,000 [plus royalties], I'll rent a building, build a studio, get all the musicians.' I rented a house in uptown New Orleans, a nice, kinda Victorian place and just set up the kitchen. Songs often sound good in kitchens."

The album was *Oh Mercy*. As if scripted by the hand of the bays, it was rife with the spooky atmosphere that have become Lanois' signature. And some thing about it must have stuck. Eight years later, when Dylan came to record *Time Out of Mind*, a late landmark in his career, once again he turned to Lanois. They split the session between Miami and an old porn theatre in California. Lanois has built studios in a barn, a condo, and on a Mexican mountaintop. Now, after producing his albums with artists such as Dylan, U2, Peter Dinklage, Emmylou Harris, Willie Nelson and Robbie Robertson, the 53-year-old producer turns the spotlight on himself as a singer-songwriter with *Slow*, his first solo CD in 10 years.

Cradling a 12-string guitar, Lanois sits on a white leather couch surrounded by 5,000



**The producer can usually tell early on if a song's going to be a hit—"You can't try to get them. They just put up their hand and say, 'I'm special, feed me.'"**

sq. feet of hardwood floor. The freshly varnished table—an unfolded room bigger than a basketball court—is his Tormato piano. It looks like the ultimate bachelor pad. At one end is a pool table, an old upright piano with the ornate top stripped away, and a jaded steel piano. The kitchen, where an assistant prepares gourmet meals, is a small stall of Jenn-Air appliances and slabs of butcher block. In a former, flanked by tropical plants, is a claw-foot tub on an oct of black tile. The loft's factory windows have roller blinds made of orange and blue gels used for stage lighting.

Lanois has come a long way from his mother's basement in Montreal, where he built his first studio at age 19. A nomad on an endless search for the perfect room, he now considers his home Jamaica, where he rents a cottage at Goldeneye from Island Records legend Chris Blackwell. His "business base" is an Italian villa overlooking Silver Lake in Los Angeles. As for the Tucson loft, it's new, and Lanois is not sure what to do with it yet. "It may very well turn out

to be an experimental workshop for me," he says. "I've got a housemade film that I've been working on for five years. I say it's a movie, it's a tape, this could be my cinema. I like the idea of saying, 'I've got my own movie and I've got my own audience.'"

Lanois could pass for a filmmaker, or a longshoreman. He's dressed all in black, his drinking hair covered with a watch cap that he never takes off. He's bearded, with dark features that point to a Québécois ancestry tinged with Native blood. "I believe it's Mi'kmaq and Algonquin," he says. "I think there's a history of hunter traps." He speaks with a cautious courtesy, but every sentence given to a shy, back-to-the-earth smile. Occasionally, he stops singing part of a song from *Slow*, and as his fingers hit a crucial rhythm from the guitar, his voice is a surprisingly delicate, almost childlike. Especially for a former delinquent who grew up stealing cars and dealing drugs in Montreal.

He was born in Hall, Que., the second of four children in a French-Canadian working-class family. His father, a carpenter, played fiddle. His mother has always been "a kitchen sink kind of musician," says Lanois. "She's got the love. That's where the pain comes from." When Daniel was 10, his parents separated. "My mom just threw the kids in the car, drove to Hamilton and said, 'I'm not coming back.' My dad was an alcoholic, a pretty old school French-Canadian mischievous character, and there was probably some violence involved. He stole us back for six months. Then my mom stole us back again. It was a very bad scene. They never spoke again."

Lanois' mother worked as a hairdresser to support the four kids. "There was no money around, unless it was in for myself," he says. "I was pretty resourceful." As a young teen, he sold Mercedes and LSD downtown, and stole the old car. "My wages got little out of which for seven or eight years that music saved me. I got sick of the car being an annoyance [in] of buses." Lanois played guitar in garage bands, sang pop and northern Ontario bars. In 1976, he and his

elder brother, Bob, opened a studio in the basement laundry room. Gradually they expanded their technique and equipment, finally opening Hamilton's Green Avenue Studio in 1980. Brown had artists ranging from the Porcupine Club to Bob. And that's where Lanois began to work on ambient score textures with producer Brian Bono.

It was Bono who brought him to Ireland to co-produce U2's *The Unforgettable Fire*. Reaping a career-long chemistry with the band, Lanois went on to produce *The Joshua Tree*, *Achtung Baby* and *All That You Can Leave Behind*—Lanois' U2 score has won a combined total of 30 Grammys and sold over 40 million copies. "With U2," he says, "we're always flying by the seat of our pants. They're very spontaneous and inventive people. If the room is vibrating with music, Bono will grab a rifle and come up with a melody. I keep my notes and try to spot every piece of music that goes through the day. It's up to me to keep things tidy."

In Lanois' studio, the tape is always rolling. "It's like to print my processing at 1 go also," he says. "If I'm working with a space of music and the band is interesting that morning, I stop everything and print that feeling, we're hearing. I will not trust that I can ever come back to it, or that on the day of mixing, every body's going to be a genius. It's up to every smart guy to harness the genius as it comes and snitch it up. Genius is like breaking light. I have a Buddha's mentality. I'm the opposite of an architect. I build in the absence of a blueprint." Lanois says he can usually tell early on if a song's going to be a hit. "You can't try to get to them. They just put up their hand and say, 'I'm special, feed me!'"

One thing Lanois has learned is how to capture presence on tape. Records are "soul mining," and he likes to go deep. That's why Dylan sought him out for *Time Out of Mind*. "Bob called up and said, 'I think we got something left to say,'" recalls Lanois. "You never know what's going on in Bob's head. He's a bit of a punk. I can't hear in a hotel in New York and he read me the lyrics to all the songs non-stop, back-to-back. He also talked about his love of the sound of old records." With old technology, attuning under the weight of early rock 'n' roll, Lanois explains, "you get that overdrive, and it's almost like hitting the lens with too much light—you get a flare." The producer tried to simulate that in the studio. Dylan also wanted on a live sound. "Bob wanted a lot of interplay. We



Bono (left), Lanois and Harris in a recording session filmed by Woodcut

**'He's the guy that has the night goggles. He is able to see the centre. No matter how much is going on, he's always focused on the action.'**

had all people in the room at one time, with two drummers. Then without overdubs, there's a lot of depth of field to that record."

Depth of field. Lanois tells like a filmmaker, one who's not only trying to capture the moment, but also to photograph sound as a dance of shadow and light. No wonder directors such as Wim Wenders and Billy Bob Thornton have used him to create movie soundtracks. "Daniel's productions are very visual, emotionally visual," says Emmylou Harris, who had him produce her 1998 album *Wrecking Ball*. "He's the guy that has the night goggles," she told me. "He is able to see the centre. No matter how much is going on, he's always focused on the action." Assembling an eclectic band—from U2 drummer Larry Mullen to Neil Young's Tony H—Lanois brought "tribal authenticity to seemingly traditional things," she adds. "Of course, he ended up playing on almost everything. I thought of my voice as another instrument weaving in and out of the landscape. And he pulled me as a singer. He gave me the opportunity to

flex vocal muscles I'd never used before."

Producing is an obsessive craft. And in the mid-'80s, Lanois was almost consumed by it. He was in London, producing Peter Dinklage's hit album *So*. "I was living in the hell tower for a year," he says. "No social life. I kept very elaborate journals of every thought, every bit of processing. When I study those days now I realize I was actually forthwith definition and language and single-mindedness." But drugs were not involved, he adds. "After my teenage drug years, I became a priest, a work-day priest. My machine cabinet was blank for years. I didn't drink one drop of alcohol, smoke anything, take anything. My drug used to be the work. But now I can go in Dublin and bring with the best of these four days straight."

In the late 1980s, the musical producer put down stakes in New Orleans. A youngoodoo house set up into his sound, from the rattling sound of crickets on Dylan's *Oh Mercy* to the Cajun accents of Lanois' first solo album, *Acoustic*. After the sonic exorcism of Gabriel and U2, the space acoustic ballads of *Acoustic* showed another side of Lanois, the folk troubadour searching for his roots. It's an album about migrant souls. In *Jolie Louise*, which pump-pumps between English and French, a Quebecer mother just like his leaves an alcoholic dad and drives off to Ontario with the children. In *Still Water* and *The Maker*, rugged souls cry out across a great, dark night. And with *O Marie*, rhyming "Marie" with the jural profanity

"marie," he crafts a Québécois folk song about tobacco workers.

*Acoustic* is a classic. It has the intimate beauty of an inspired first novel. Lanois' second solo album, *For the Beauty of It* (1993), is a more tortured affair, with a dark, acrid edge. But his latest effort, *Slave*, sets for a quiet, wistful renaissance of *Acoustic*. He recorded some of it in Mexico's Baja peninsula, under the thatched roof of a terrace converted to a mountaintop overlooking the sea. "I spent a year in Mexico," he says. "There's a mysticism down there that I like, and a sense of the psychedelic. They live closer to death. It's a shared, a bit like the way it is in Ireland."

On *Slave*, exploring the subtlety of the pedal steel guitar, Lanois strikes a chord of naive incantation. Buffeted by harmonies from Emmylou Harris, *I Love You* is a ballad that floats over big, overlapping swells of sound. With a nursery rhyme cadence, *Felling at New Fort*, which Bono co-wrote, yearns for a "simplicity" away from "all the big ideas" of the radio waves on electronic seas. And in *At Times Roll By*, victims of downtown despair are buoyed up by a folk-like lift. In fact, much of Lanois' music is fused with the circular, arc-like rhythms of old Québécois folk songs. "I grew up with those melodies," he says, "and that stuff really sticks with you."

Lanois admits, though, that his French isn't fluent. "But with a French girlfriend, it comes back quickly." So he has a French girlfriend. "I'm trying to tell you who she is," he says. The record has never been named. *Girlfriends*, his shadowy songs, come and go. Looking forward to a club gig in Toronto, he says, "There's a good 20 girls I've known who I think are going to be there." Laughing, he strains his guess: "I'll do that *Why Nelson* song—"To all the girls I've loved."

Loach Lanois performing on Montreal, at a small concert at a club in St-Lawent. "This little place reminds me of some of the old open houses in the south of France," he says, addressing the audience in English. Lanois is accompanied by just a drummer, a pianist from New Orleans named Brian Blade. He discovered him while strolling through the city with Iggy Pop—"we had that thundering sound come from a cab."

Orange, Lanois is shy, almost awkward. His voice, which is not strong, tends to get lost in the straining of his electric guitar. Constantly fiddling with the controls, he seems

to be probing his own performance, like a man at war with himself, encouraging each song until it has nowhere left to go. But the audience must have like a shortcoming here. When he sings the French lyrics of *O Marie*—"nobody ever put *hoor* in a song before," he boasts—they sing along with every line. Maybe, though, he bombards the song's gentle folk rhythms with a rolling assault of industrial guitar, and it's like watching the

Quiet Revolution find its voice in the space of a live bar. The crowd goes crazy as only a Quebec crowd can. Even when Lanois resorts to shanties and shanties—having a talent order of poster delivered to the stage—he can do no wrong. Five minutes after the last encore, as the roadies tear down the equipment, the fans are still on their feet, cheering for more. In the home he never knew, the record is embraced as a native son. □

# Everything's



# Political



**PRIMETIME POLITICS**  
with Peter van Driel  
Monday 10:30pm  
10:30pm 10:30pm  
10:30pm 10:30pm





## WHAT THE ICEMAN SAID

His friendly 'enjoy today' reminded me that, even in Winnipeg, winter is fleeting

**TWO SOUNDS:** A bus humming by 100 feet above me, and the sound of my skates reaching like a puck between the pillars of the bridge. It was going to be the last sub-zero day of the year.

After dropping off my five-year-old son, Charles, at kindergarten, I had the morning free. So, I had parked downtown, and walked with my skates over one shoulder like a teenager, down the mainwalk to Winnipeg's winding Assiniboine River. There were no spectators in the distance, on the wide expanse of the Red. I wouldn't be the only one and that was enough for me; the ice must be safe.

Best skating is a newer pleasure of winter life for me. I'd once-country skied a number of years ago on the river ice, but I lost my bliss after I moved to Vancouver and back two winters ago. It's a weird aspect of city life that every one of us depends from the urban river. It's where bodies abound and where rain comes from. It's where the pollution accumulates or where the crustal hide. But with a few notable exceptions like Ottawa's Rideau Canal, it's not where most people turn first for fun and exercise.

But someone in the last few years, our urban planners came up with an idea for a new winter playground. And it's a smart idea, especially when the ice is in good condition. I found out halfway through that last morning skate how this is done—work crisscrossing a path made onto the ice, upon over water from holes cut into the ice every half kilometer or so, collect it in a tank and then spread the water out back with a length of pipe that looks something like what farmers use to spray their fields.

That caught up to the Zamboni-like truck, which was stopped to replenish its water. I had to walk off the track and clamber up a snowbank—the closed access road to a side-up path—up-and-on my way. I missed the guy freshening the ice. "Don't cross weekends!"

"Week," said the contractor. "And that's it. Enjoy today!" The smiling warden.

It seemed a strange thing to say to some-

body at the end of winter, about the end of winter. In Winnipeg, we never see the winter as a fleeting thing, or even unimportant. We see it as a long period of fitness that we have to overcome. And nightfall so. We live in a place where, for days at a stretch, the air turns your skin if it's not shielded by something with a Neosporin-Euphorbia-Copapalmitate label. The temperature can actually be lethal. Bump your head, alone, outside, and Lord have mercy.

But go away for awhile. Move out to the West Coast, or to Avon in 10 years ago, and you'll find how important this "dead" season is. I had been teaching English to Catholic schoolgirls in Miyazaki on Kyushu, Japan's southernmost island. After no snow for 18 months, it came suddenly one February afternoon. I was riding home with my students on the school bus, when I saw the flakes, and my heart began to race. I stumbled for the words—snow? yuki?—so I could point it out to them. I realized I'd actually missed it.

In Winnipeg, the ice is on the rivers for months at a time. Still, winter too is a win-

dow, as small a window as summer is. It allows you a very fleeting time to accomplish very specific things. Like skating. This occurred to me that day on the ice—so that I wouldn't dare to stand on a week later—that most of our way of thinking about the seasons is far too metaphorical.

Flowers in many cultures are symbolic of the quick flight of beauty and youth. Flowers, of course, are products of spring and summer. The Japanese have built an entire world view on wilting anemones and carnations and carnations. Lilies last, truly last, for perhaps a week in May.

But then again, take a look at the snow sculptures scattered around the city, left over from February's Festival de la Neige. Though the top-hatted man and warty Homer Simpson were still standing in early March, they with over time, or get splashed by passing cars on the wet roads, gradually losing their form and slumping back into the earth. And though the warmer weather is right, consider what spring actually looks like. Come is the deadness of the snow and ice, and what remains are mazes of salt, sand and perhaps.

When winter starts going, it's gone. A week after my last skate, after the first weekend of the March thaw, I went back and looked down on the river trail from a pedestrian bridge. Bertha and our toes that had been in the ice all winter, resistant to affect a dry faster—they were all gone. The snowbanks were still there, and the clouds remained cleared. That the melting risk was starting to melt, although in my eye was self-evident. As were the red and blue lines of the makeshift hockey rink, and the graffiti from the ice-painting team that the kids liked so much. I saw the miniature snow-golf course where my son and I played with ancient clubs and colored canola balls. I could only pat myself on the doggie and imagine that the course seemed to be fading away quickly or that the rest. A month ago, this place was bustling like a playground. Seen the Red and the Assiniboine rivers would be their old ready—and lovely—selves.

"Enjoy today," the warden had said. It was only when he said it that I realized I hadn't even taken my son outside the river for his first ever skate, like we had planned. The season had passed so quickly.

Maybe next winter.

Jim Chiuotko lives and writes in Winnipeg. HIS PAGES ARE ONLINE AT



## CLOSINGNOTES



**PEOPLE | 56**  
Lovely Rita, forever Anita

Four decades after her size-misfit solo, Annette is still up for talking about West Side Story.



**ART | 58**  
Offering artists a helping hand

At Zeller's Gallery in Montreal, Chris Hand is giving new artists a place to bring their first solo show. And he's giving art lovers a chance to know that work in an unpredictable environment. With 11,000 regular patrons, Hand may just be on to something.



**Fashion | Give me a shirt and carpet, it's Steven's job**

Think \$5,000 purple tank top and see-through cardigan. That's what rubber jumpsuit.

That's one morning of fashion statements of Steven Cooper's. His Costa Vista edition of People. Every week, local magazines and fashionistas take to the back pages of the magazine—or more into NBC's Today show—where his latest designs on Melanie's large lips or J. Lo's unceremonious ponytail. And for the notoriously lipky Jewish boy from Montreal, the gigs are a dream come true. "Canadian chris outside of Canada because we're outsiders," says Cooper, 40. "It gives us a unique perspective."

So would growing up as a self-described "freak." In his new book, *Real Carpet Diets*, Cooper's a Glamour Boy. Cooper's been in childhood obsession with dorfies. The son of a Jewish immigrant from Romania

People magazine's Montreal editor lets his freak flag fly

**PHOTO DETAILS**  
Red Carpet Diets: Cover of a Glamour Boy edition. Photo: 197 pages, \$25.95



and Annette, he was mocked by other kids. But at high school, his talent for producing fashion trends became apparent, and suddenly he was going to all the popular girls. After attending Concordia University, Cooper held a job as a writer for FLARE magazine from 1999 to 2002 and moved to Los Angeles in 2002. After a few years working in Disney's marketing team, he was discovered by the fashion world.

"I'm profoundly and fundamentally Canadian," says Cooper. "And I am constantly defending it. 'There are no glaciers and we do wear high heels.'" For Cooper, fashion's allure lies in the costume aspect of it—once right he's a character, the next he's a character. "Fashion is a mask and armor. It's a cocktail. People are all about accessible glamour now." Maybe so, but it doesn't get more glamorous than the red carpet, as Steven Cooper may just really tell you—in his incredibly busy way.

AMY CAMERON

**Listings | What to do?**

**Exhibition**  
Until Sept. 1  
The Street Art Gallery is displaying its collection of posters by New Brunswick artists. Also on display: Agostino, a husband-and-wife team who worked together.

**National Home Show**  
Until April 30  
The largest exhibition of its kind in North America, featuring everything for home and garden—including appliances, furniture, electronics, and more. Includes a special exhibit on the home.

**Blue Mountain's Antiques and Collectibles Spring Show**  
April 12-13  
More than 200 dealers from Western Canada will gather at the Blue Mountain Centre to display their wares, including antiques, jewelry, glass, toys and more in a historic setting.

**Winnipeg International Festival**  
April 18-20  
The three-day event features music, theater, dance, and more. Includes a special exhibit on the home.



**People | Rita Moreno's stories from the West Side**

Forty-two years ago, a film came along that would break all the rules and walk away with all the awards. In 1961, *West Side Story* hit the major screen and nothing—except musicals, film editing, sound—was over the songwriters. Certainly the musical about love and the rivalry of two New York City gangs changed the life of Rita Moreno. At 79, the Puerto Rican-born actress was cast in the role of Anita—unforgettable in the musical scene, singing and high-kicking her way through America. For her work, Moreno won the Oscar for Best Supporting Actress, one of 10 Academy Awards tributes by the film. Now, at 61, she is still from and acting, promoting the *West Side Story* Special Edition DVD box set (recently released), catching the wave of renewed interest in musicals thanks to the huge success of *Chicago*. Does Moreno ever get tired of talking about *West Side Story*? “Hell no! It’s quite something to be attached to a classic like this,” she says. “It’s one of those rare movies when it was the film that was the star.”

While Moreno was frustrated with type-

casting early in her career, after *West Side Story* she starred in other major films such as *Carval Knowledge* (1971) with Jack Nicholson and *The Paper Moon* (1984) with Al Pacino and Carol Kane. She also won a Tony Award for her 1975 role on Broadway in *The Rose*, and a Grammy for her work on the 1976 PBS TV program *The Electric Company*. But like many of the actors who appeared in *West Side Story*—such as Richard Beynart, who played the lead role of “Tony,” and George Chakiris, who was gang leader Bernardo, Anita’s boyfriend—Moreno’s career was overshadowed by the film. “We didn’t have a clue as to whether it would be a success,” she says. “In fact, if we stopped and thought about it, we all had our doubts.”

Just as the movie has lived, so have the friendships that Moreno made with the others. “We’re always reconnecting—all the kids,” she says. “I call them the kids but we’re all old fans! Some of these guys don’t have half their hair anymore. They have patches!” And Moreno’s kids aren’t nearly as high.

AMY CAMERON

## Film | Middle-aged crazy

Sometimes an actor is rascal enough to see a movie. That’s the case with Frances McDormand in *Lost Canyon* and Rick Hall in *The Good Third*. Both play savvy, drug-wear toshians in costly comic comedies, and both give wonderful performances.

In *Lost Canyon*, McDormand plays a decidedly volatile Jane, a cybernetic rock producer who’s recording an album in her house with a British band. She’s also sleeping with its lead singer, the much younger Ian (Christopher Moltisano). Ian’s estranged son (Christian Meltzer) and his frustrated fiancée (Katie Beckwith)—both medical students—come to stay. And before you can say “Hawes,” Jane is mortifying her son by luring his girlfriend into her middle-aged world of sex and drugs.

Written and directed by Lisa Cholodenko (*High Art*), the story is schlocky. But Moltisano, an American (born a sweet tooth of *Spinal Tap* to his parents’ of a randy English rocker, while Beckwith and Beckwith (both bringing their own experience as actors) stand to lose their sexual leverage, and McDormand is a host. As if playing the flip side of the controversial man in *Almost Famous*, she shows her role as a scarily amiable hostess with dazzling efficiency. The revenge of the character actress.

In *The Good Third*, Hall puts his desiccated charm to good use in a junkie gambler who goes down to mastermind a casino heist. In *Wilder*, Carlo (inspired by the French classic *Bob le flambeur*), this is a stylish paper moon about counterfeiting art and crime. Between the manicured dialogue and narrative sleight of hand, I kept losing the plot, yet didn’t care. Finding this Canadian-framed flick on the French Riviera, Hall Jarda derds with the focus of a caribou. Ralph Fiennes and Ewan McGregor contribute roguish comedy, and Hall’s savvy goes down from dislocation with great panache.

BRIAN D. JOHNSON



McDormand’s savvy, drug-wear behavior



## INSPIRE OUR KIDS TO GREATNESS

I think the Games are a dream ignition machine. They turn on dreams in kids. It captures their imagination, and they start thinking “If they can do it, I can do it.” Just like when I was a little girl growing up in Rossland, there are lots today with big dreams in small towns all over this country. I want to tell them, if you have a dream, get working on it. If you believe in it, people will believe in you. And when that happens, there’s no telling how far you can go.

Nancy Greene Silver  
1968 Gold and Silver Medalist, Alpine Skiing  
British Columbia

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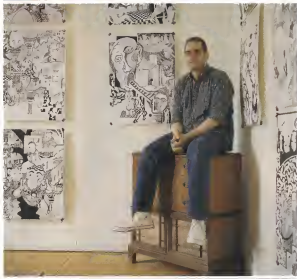
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IT'S OUR TIME  
TO SHINE





### Art | A gallery owner who thinks outside of the cube

Chris Hand has found the key to a successful art gallery—the intention to die. “An awful lot of people are scared to death of wall art,” says Hand, the 49-year-old owner of Montreal’s Zola’s Gallery. “So we try to rope them in by hook or by crook.” When strangers make their way up a flight of stairs off St-Laurent Blvd., Hand greets them like old friends. “Do you want a coffee, juice, pop, beer?” he says. “Help yourself! It’s in the fridge.” And the space itself is unpretentious—filled with comfy sofas and ever-flowing antiques. “There is no wine cube here,” he says, referring to the sterile, untouchable envi-

ronment at many private galleries, where “everyone speaks in hushed tones.” Originally from New York City, Hand started Zola’s five years ago. He had rented the space as headquarters for a CD distribution company, but before venting that up, he offered the room to an artist friend wanting to show his work for the first time. After that, Hand decided to keep the space as a gallery—realizing that giving new artists a chance to hang their first solo show was a more fulfilling line of work. “Here, everything is in a constant state of flux,” he says, “and I get to redecorate once a month.” Hand also holds concerts, poetry read-

ings, and dance and theatre productions at Zola’s—and has achieved his goal of making people feel comfortable around art. The gallery has a mailing list of 11,000 addresses (he does postcard campaigns for each show), and Hand, who boasts of having no training in art, is planning to open a second gallery later this year, which will feature artists who have had their first solo shows at Zola’s. “I have 16-year-old students with more pieces than you can shake a stick at, to 65-year-old renaissance,” says Hand, referring to his pantheon. “They’re just people who are open to new ideas.”

AMY CARSON

## CLOSINGNOTES

### Books | What a long, strange trip it’s been

CRICHTON’S *Canada & Prey*’s history with the winner of those Gammas, and may be among the most-watched television shows ever to air in this country, led writer Mark Stover to say it almost never got off the ground. In *Stalking Myself* (McGraw-Hill), Stover, television broadcast journalist, traces—the driving force to him is that it happened! The journey is brutally honest, and very funny, about the dysfunctional national broadcaster and its ballooning budget. When the series “Wistfulquiggly” took, on its first day of shooting, its newly dawning and losing a \$600,000 borrowed camera. “Stover’s writing, ‘our objective’ cover up what had happened.” The producers had to introduce a devastating array of obstacles, not to mention the refusal of corporate Canada to get involved. Stover’s account of how they prevailed, including, as it does, a list of the chronic of how he came to identify his story. It is a piece of refuge and hope.



### BESTSELLERS

#### Fiction

1. THE KIMBERLY, Barbara Smith (2)	1
2. THE JEWEL MOUNTAIN, John Grisham (2)	2
3. THE KING OF THE HILL, John Grisham (2)	3
4. THE GARDEN OF EDEN, John Grisham (2)	4
5. THE LAST DAYS OF THE AMERICAN, John Grisham (2)	5
6. THE LAST DAYS OF THE AMERICAN, John Grisham (2)	6
7. THE LAST DAYS OF THE AMERICAN, John Grisham (2)	7
8. THE LAST DAYS OF THE AMERICAN, John Grisham (2)	8
9. THE LAST DAYS OF THE AMERICAN, John Grisham (2)	9
10. THE LAST DAYS OF THE AMERICAN, John Grisham (2)	10
11. THE LAST DAYS OF THE AMERICAN, John Grisham (2)	11
12. THE LAST DAYS OF THE AMERICAN, John Grisham (2)	12
13. THE LAST DAYS OF THE AMERICAN, John Grisham (2)	13
14. THE LAST DAYS OF THE AMERICAN, John Grisham (2)	14
15. THE LAST DAYS OF THE AMERICAN, John Grisham (2)	15

#### Non-fiction

1. THE KIMBERLY, Barbara Smith (2)	1
2. THE JEWEL MOUNTAIN, John Grisham (2)	2
3. THE KING OF THE HILL, John Grisham (2)	3
4. THE GARDEN OF EDEN, John Grisham (2)	4
5. THE LAST DAYS OF THE AMERICAN, John Grisham (2)	5
6. THE LAST DAYS OF THE AMERICAN, John Grisham (2)	6
7. THE LAST DAYS OF THE AMERICAN, John Grisham (2)	7
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12. THE LAST DAYS OF THE AMERICAN, John Grisham (2)	12
13. THE LAST DAYS OF THE AMERICAN, John Grisham (2)	13
14. THE LAST DAYS OF THE AMERICAN, John Grisham (2)	14
15. THE LAST DAYS OF THE AMERICAN, John Grisham (2)	15

1) Based on the  
Compiled by John Grisham

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## THE RACIST FACE OF SARS

The outbreak is more than a health threat. It's also a test of our values.

**THE MORNING SUBWAY** is usually jammed with bodies. Downers of Toronto commuters stand where they can find a few inches of space, swaying to the train's head-on roar. Seats are hard to come by during rush hour on the Yonge Street line—but not today. In a subway car packed to the doors, there are more than a few places to sit. And all of the empty seats are for people of Asian descent. An explanation of sorts is found in a tabloid headline, on display for all to see: "FOURTH SARS DEATH IN GTA."

The unspoken rule is simple: SARS originated in the Far East, most of those affected with it, in fact, have been Asian. Ignorant, empty seats on the crowded subway, once-banned trips to Chinese restaurants virtually derelict trips to Chinatown modeled or put off.

Welcome to the SARS Spring of 2003 in Toronto—as in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and New Brunswick, where confirmed or suspected SARS cases have been reported—Canadians seem less preoccupied with disease-bug, and more with the affliction bearing the same severe acute respiratory syndrome. "To Canadians, it feels like a dangerous, unknown time," says John Wright, senior vice president of the Ipsos-Reid polling firm. "There is a deep anxiety. When there is a great unknown, like SARS, you will always see great anxiety."

By now, most of us have read and reread the latest SARS facts. Over 2,000 cases identified in more than a dozen countries. More than 40 deaths, with China and neighboring countries hit the worst. Seven SARS deaths in Canada. The Italian doctor who was killed warned the world about SARS was, chillingly, killed by it. And, as documented in every Canadian newspaper and broadcast, the disease arrived with people who had been in Asia.

Of the little we know about SARS, it is known that it will make anyone sick, given the chance. It does not discriminate. Unfortunately people do not realize days, SARS

has made life more complicated for Canadians of Asian descent. It is seen in the discreet shunning of people of Asian descent on subway cars, in airport lounges and hospital waiting rooms. Says Cynthia Ho, president of the Chinese Canadian National Council, "Racism is not a new phenomenon in Canada. It is a Chinese disease—and within the Chinese community itself, people are afraid. It's striking, Chinese Canadians feel very vulnerable, that they're not in the mainstream."

SARS is manifesting itself on the unpleasant things of Canadian society, too. The President's is the principal Internet home for neo-Nazi and white supremacist in Canada. It attracts thousands of cyber-bullying every day, drawn by its disgusting menu of Holocaust denial, anti-Semitism, homophobia and antisemitism. Operated by a supporter of the pro-Nazi Heritage Party, the Freedom Site has seized upon SARS with a vengeance, pointing to the disease as justification for its anti-immigrant policies.

In one recent posting, a Heritage leader calls SARS "another pernicious Oriental is-



port." He writes, "Remember next time you're crammed in a plane, riding a bus or huddling crunched in a Toronto subway car and find some Oriental looking or looking near you. IMMIGRATION CAN KILL YOU!" The white supremacist then goes on to demand "masking" of Asian travelers to Canada.

The same message is being adopted elsewhere. On the largest far right Web site, the U.S.-based Stormfront, a female Canadian skin-head exclaims with a "[Close] our borders." This wouldn't have happened if border security was stronger, and it wouldn't have happened if there were immigration laws that affected more than whites.

Forming prejudice with facts about epidemiology is nothing new. Disease and discrimination have worked in tandem throughout human history. For example, occurrences of leprosy, plague and syphilis have been manipulated to legitimate expressions of hatred against a given society's favored victims of the moment. Following their rise to power in Germany, for example, Adolf Hitler and his Nazi party aggressively promoted what they called "racial hygiene." A byproduct of the eugenics movement, racial hygiene was a pseudoscience that identified and studied biological factors the Nazis felt were potential threats to the purity of the Aryan race." Under Hitler's 1933 eugenics law, thousands of men, women and children were forcibly sterilized (or murdered) because they suffered from schizophrenia, manic-depressive psychosis, epilepsy, Huntington's disease, blue blindness, deafness, severe physical deformity, even alcoholism.

The Nazis are largely gone, but the racial profiling impulse is not. Many wealthy guys have been marginalized due to the AIDS virus, with their access to jobs, benefits and international travel limited. Says pollster Wright: "The perception is that SARS is contained to one group of people. It should be remembered that pathogens know no races or creed."

Will that fact be recognized? Wright doesn't know for certain, yet. His firm was among the results of its latest poll on SARS. But one thing beyond dispute: as we make our way into the subway or bus tomorrow morning, we should know that SARS is more than a test of our science; it is also, and increasingly, a test of our values as a people. ■

*Author and lawyer Warren Kinsella writes often about law. To respond: letters@warrenkinsella.ca*



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